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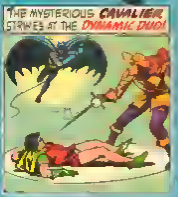
BATMAN



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BATMAN
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IN THIS ISSUE, ROBIN, YOU MIGHT SAY WE'RE FIGHTING CRIME BY THE NUMBERS! AND THE THEME WAS INSPIRED BY OUR NEWEST ADVENTURE, A CLASH WITH OUR MOST UNPREDICTABLE FOE TWO-FACE!
HE'S THE CRIMINAL WHO BASES HIS CRIMES ON THE NUMBER TWO! HE WAS ON THE SIDE OF THE LAW UNTIL A CRIMINAL SCARRED HALF HIS FACE WITH ACID! NOW HE'S A MIXTURE OF GOOD AND EVIL!
THE NO. THE'S GREATEST CHALLENGE
BATMAN
...HIS CRIMINAL GENIUS GROWS MORE DEVIOUS THAN EVER AS HE PLOTS A SCHEME TO EXTORT THREE MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES AND SHOULD THEY REFUSE, THE GOVERNMENT FIGURE WILL BE DESTROYED FOREVER!
FOLLOW THE DREAD BATMAN AS HE FACES TO STAVE OFF THE TERRIBLE
"THREAT of the TWO-HEADED COIN!"
STORY BY DENNY O'NEIL
ART BY DICK DRAGO & NICK GIORDANO
INKING BY JULIUS SCHWARTZ

RIGHT IN GOTHAM CITY AND ON THIS BREEZE-SWEPT ROOFTOP IN A DECAYING NEIGHBORHOOD, TWO PAIRS OF EYES PEER AT A NEARBY BUILDING...
DID YOU RECOGNIZE THE TYPE WHO JUST ENTERED THE BUILDING, ROBIN?
OH, HE'S NOTHING TO TOTTER
THE ARGONAUT. THAT MAKES FIVE KNOWN CRIMINALS IN THERE!
LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE PUTTING ALL THEIR VEGGIES IN ONE BASKET!
ROBIN, PLEASE JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE ON VACATION FROM MUSCLE UNIVERSITY...
DOESN'T MEAN YOU'VE GOT TO RESUME YOUR JUVENILE WAYS!
OKAY, ROBIN—GIVING IT!
RIGHT! I'LL HIT 'EM HIGH!
AND YOU JUST 'EM LOW?
THE BATMAN!
CRASH!!!
AN' HE BOY!
YOU'RE OUT OF DATE, CRUMB. I'M KNOWN AS THE TEEN WONDER THESE DAYS!

COMMISSIONER GORDON GOT A TIP YOU THUGS WERE COMING INTO TOWN.
I DO[illegible] YOUSY[illegible] BE [illegible] EXPLAIN?
CONTENTS [illegible] SE BOTTLE [illegible] ONE ACCOM[illegible] [illegible] THE SAME THING ONLY SLOWER!
HOLD [illegible] HOTSY [illegible] OR YOU [illegible] THE PARTY [illegible] HA[illegible] AND Y[illegible] BEGUN
TIS A SUNSHINE PARTY
AND YOU'RE THE YOUR CANARY!
KAY-CHOW WARBLE AND FOR YOUR SAKE I HOPE I LIKE THE TUNE!
[illegible]HA S[illegible] T ALL ABOUT?
I SWEAR I PUNNO WE GET TH[illegible] MESSAGE SEE[illegible] WILET [illegible] THE GOTHAM HOTEL T[illegible] AYS
WE GO AN[illegible] THIS SMOOTH LOO[illegible] H[illegible] PLACE SAYS UP[illegible] THE FOOT ON[illegible] HAVE BEEN FILLED!
HE GIVES US EXPENSE MONEY IN[illegible] SAYS LIKE YOU'RE DISMISSED!!

IT MET TO BOAR OUT SORROWS HONEY!
COME ON HOTSY! WE'VE GOT TO KNOW YOU MUST HAVE HEARD SOMETHING!
NO! I'M TEAR TO HEAR THE TRUE MOTION ARKHAM!
ARKHAM? BATMAN! THAT MUST MEAN
WE BETTER STOP MOVING AND HOPE WE'RE NOT TOO LATE!
FOUR HOURS LATER AT A NEW ENGLAND TOWN CALLED A HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE IN ASYLUM WHICH HOUSES THE CRIMINALLY INSANE
THE GUARDS AND STAFF ARE OUT! HURRY!
JUST AND HOW SECOND LIEUTENANT HARRIS
WHERE THE PRISONERS ARE FILLED WITH STUNNING GAS!
THERE'S LIKE CUT!
GOOD
WE HAVE YOU TO ACCOMPANY US, HARVEY DENT TO FREEDOM!
OFFER I CAN'T REFUSE BUT TELL ME
WHY ARE YOU DOING A FAVOR FOR ME TWO FACE?
I'LL EXPLAIN OUTSIDE!

TWO FACE, DEAR BUDDY-BUDDY SURELY YOU WON'T QUIT THIS GHASTLY PLACE WITHOUT TAKING ME!
YOUR FRIEND OF FRIENDS THE JOKER!
I'LL LET MY TWO HEADED COIN DECIDE JOKER! IF THE CLEAN SIDE LANDS UP YOU COME!
TOO BAD THE SCARRED SIDE IS SHOWING! YOU STAY PUT!
THE COIN KNOWS BEST! I'M BE A TRIPLE MURDERER TO FREE A VICIOUS MURDERER LIKE YOU, JOKER!
YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS, YOU DOUBLE-CROSSER!
I HAVE A GETAWAY CAR WAITING, TWO-FACE!
THEN, IN THE YARD
SNIFF. THE AIR, ROBIN! THE GUARDS HAVE BEEN GASSED--!
BATMAN, LOOK! BY THE FENCE! TWO-FACE!

YOUR YEARS AS A GUEST OF THE STATE HAVEN'T HELPED YOUR RUNNING TECHNIQUE, TWO-FACE

YOUR BREAKOUT IS OVER

BUT I'M REALLY BERIGH

HUH? YOU'RE NOT TWO FACE

RIGHT BATMAN

I'M HARRY HIGBY AN ACTOR!

I WAS HIRED BY A GUY CALLING HIMSELF JOHN HARRIS TO IMPERSONATE TWO FACE!

AND THE REAL TWO-FACE ESCAPED BY THE BACK ROAD

YOU'RE TO POUBLE TYPICAL TWO FACE TRICK

HARRIS HARRIS THE NAME IS FAMILIAR

SURE YOU'D BE GENERAL JOHN HARRIS A RETIRED MILITARY MAN WHO SAYS THE NAT ON CONG

GOING TO THE DOGS? DON'T YOU AGREE MINER BENT?

PREFER TO BE ADDRESSED AS TWO FACE LARK

HARVEY DENT WAS A DISTRICT ATTORNEY. HANDSOME, ADMIRED!

WHEN THAT ACID STRUCK HIM, HE BECAME NOT A CRIMINAL UGLY, HATED!

VERY WELL, SIR - HENCEFORTH YOU ARE TWO FACE!
YOU HAVE HEARD MY PROPOSAL, SIR
- WHAT DO YOU THINK?
IT COULD WORK, GENERAL THORNER! YOU HAVE THE NECESSARY SCIENTIFIC HELP!
HE HAS! - ME!
I AM SAMUEL SMITH-SMYTHE, LATE OF THE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION!
I HAVE CHOSEN TO GO INTO PRIVATE BUSINESS WHERE THE REWARDS ARE COMPARABLY GREATER THAN GOVERNMENT REMUNERATION!
I APPROVE OF YOUR LAST NAME!
YES, THE GENERAL WAS CERTAIN YOU WOULD!
SO - WE HAVE THE PLAN. THE SCIENTIST. WE LACK ONLY THE BARNS OF TWO-FACE TO MAKE US ALL RICH!
YOUR FIRST CHOICE, SIR?
NOT MY DECISION...
...THE COINS!
THE SCARRED SIDE WINS! I'LL DO IT!
FINE! I'LL ALERT THE ORGANIZATION AND...
YOU'LL DO NOTHING! I AM IN CHARGE FROM NOW ON. I GIVE THE ORDERS!
SEE HERE! I ENGINEERED YOUR ESCAPE! I PLANNED THE JOB! I DESERVE THE POSITION OF LEADERSHIP!

HOPELESS AMATEUR! YOU DESERVE TO DIE! BE GRATEFUL I WON'T END YOUR MISERABLE EXISTENCE IMMEDIATELY!
HARRIS! I SEE THE HATE SEETHING IN YOUR EYES... AND I RELISH IT!
YOU'LL REGRET YOUR TREATMENT OF ME, TWO FACE!
I SWEAR!!!
A VOW THE DISGRUNTLED EX-OFFICER ACTS UPON, FOR SOON
WE SAW THE BAT-SIGNAL! COMMISSIONER GORDON AND CAME A-SWINGING!
THE GENTLEMAN WITH YOU IS HARRIS?
YES. HE HAS NEWS OF TWO FACE!
THE FIEND'S PLANNING A TRUCK HIJACKING...
TO STEAL A SHIPMENT OF URANIUM ORE AT THIS SPOT ON THE FIRST ROAD AT PRECISELY THREE TOMORROW MORNING!

NO WAY, MISTER! THIS RACE WOULDN'T PULL A JOB AT THREE-ON A SINGLE LANE HIGH WAY!
-ESPECIALLY WHEN THERE'S A FORK TWO MILES AWAY!
THIS IS YOUR PLAN, ISN'T IT?
Y YES.
I HATE ALL OUR COUNTRY HAS BECOME! I WANTED REVENGE SO I DEVISED A BLACKMAIL SCHEME
I DIDN'T REALIZE THE EVIL
AAHRRG! I CAN'T STAND MYSELF!
HARRIS NO!
FOURTEEN F O R THE POOR DEVIL
BATMAN WHAT COULD HAVE MEANT BY BLACKMAIL?
COMMISSIONER DO YOU KNOW HOW AN ATOMIC BOMB WORKS?
BASICALLY IT'S QUITE SIMPLE A PIECE OF RADIOACTIVE ORE URANIUM AT EITHER END OF A TUBE!
A PAIR OF SMALL EXPLOSIVE FORCES THEM TOGETHER, CAUSING A CHAIN-REACTION

AND BOOM!
TWO PIECES OF CAKE, SAMS! TWO FACE WOULD DO FOR THAT!
HMMMM, YOU THINK HE'LL USE AN ATOM BOMB TO EXTORT MONEY?
HOW?
I DON'T KNOW, BUT I HAVE A HUNCH A HORRIBLE HUNCH!
WE'RE HEADING FOR THE BATCAVE! WE HAVE PREPARATIONS TO MAKE!
AND AT THREE THE FOLLOWING MORNING, ON A DESERTED STRETCH OF ASPHALT SOMEWHERE IN MARYLAND
THERE ONE IS, RAHAN EXACTLY AS HAVE'S SAID!
I UNDERSTAND HOW A FLY MUST FEEL APPROACHING A SPIDER WEB!
NOTICE THAT THE TRAILER P.G. IS DOUBLED! OUR P.R.C. IS CAN'T RESIST IT TWO SOY GANGS!
WE CAN EXPECT PLAYMATES ANY SECOND NOW!
WHERE THEY COME IN PAIRS!
IT'S YOUR SHOW, PAL! YOU'VE GOT TO KEEP 'EM BUSY TILL I REACH THEIR LEADER!
SURE... IT'LL BE MORE FUN THAN TOOTH DECAY!

WITH UNLEASHED ABLE COURAGE, ROBIN MEETS HIS FOES AND TEARS INTO THEM LIKE A FEROCIOUS BIRD OF PREY!

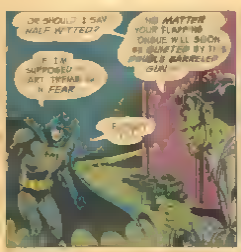
FINALLY, WITH A GALLANT THRUST, SUCH LAMB OF NO DOUBT

UNHIT!

MEANWHILE, HIS MENTOR HAS BEEN CHARGING WITH EXPRESS-TRAIN VELOCITY TOWARD HIS DOUBLE-DEALING FOE

YOU BOYS WILL NEVER MAKE THE MARSH DOLPHINS WITH THAT CRUMBY TEAM OUT

AH! THE BATMAN! AS WITTY AS EVER

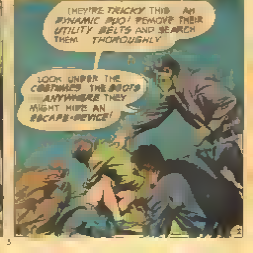

OR SHOULD I SAY HALF WITTED?
YOU MATTER YOUR FLAPPING TONGUE WILL SOON BE SILENCED BY THE DOUBLE BARRELED GUN!
I'M SUPPOSED TO BE TERRIFIED IN FEAR
F-

TO BE DISAPPOINTED IN YOU IF YOU ACTED OTHERWISE BATMAN!
F-SSS
SSS
SSS
OUR MEETINGS ARE LIKE A FAMILIAR DRAMA I'VE GROWN USED TO THEM OVER THE YEARS

BU SO! SEE THEM THAT I DON'T WISH TO REWRITE THE CLIMAX!
DARTS
TIPPED WITH POISON I EXPECT

NOTHING FATAL, I ASSURE YOU!
MERELY A SLEEPING POTION PURPLE SUBMISSION OF COURSE!
WHATEVER IT WON'T STOP ME

A HAND


THEY'RE TRICKY THIS AN DYNAMIC BOY! REMOVE THEIR UTILITY BELTS AND SEARCH THEM THOROUGHLY
LOOK UNDER THE CLOTHING THE BOOTS ANYWHERE THEY MIGHT HIDE AN ESCAPE-DEVICE!

EXACTLY TWENTY-THREE HOURS LATER IN THE NATION'S CAPITOL
IS A VERY IMPORTANT OFFICIAL BRING A MEETING TO ORDER?
YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE! WE TWO HOUSES OF CONGRESS — THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES — ARE MET TO DISCUSS A SERIOUS PROBLEM.
A PROBLEM WHICH AFFECTS US ALL!
MORE THAN YOU CAN IMAGINE SIR!
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF YOUR OUTPUT GUARD? DON'T YOU REALIZE—?
I REALIZE THAT I AM IN CHARGE OF THIS GATHERING AND YOU HAD BETTER LISTEN TO ME CAREFULLY!
MY FORMER ASSOCIATE — THE LATE GENERAL JOHN HARRIS — DID ME THE SERVICE OF SWITCHING TEXTS
OBSERVE — THIS DESK AS SPECIALLY CONSTRUCTED!
I TOUCH THIS SPOT AND —
THE FRONT IS FALLING DOWN!
MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, YOU ARE LOOKING AT A CRUDE ATOMIC BOMB, SIMILAR TO THE ONE USED ON HIROSHIMA.
IF I PRESS THIS BUTTON THE ENTIRE CAPITAL WILL BECOME A MUSHROOM CLOUD INCLUDING US!

AND PRESS I'LL CERTAINLY SHALL BE NOT TO REFUSE MY DEMAND—WHICH IS TWO BILLION DOLLARS IN BULLION AND PRECIOUS GEMS!
DELIVER MY PRICE TO A COURIER AND PREPARE AN ESCORT OUT OF U.S. WATERS!
ON THE NATION'S LAWMAKERS WILL BECOME PART OF A SPECTACULAR FIREWORKS DISPLAY!
CBS TV
MISTER PRESIDENT! I UNDERSTAND YOU'RE WATCHING ON TELEVISION HERE WE
I GIVE YOU TWELVE HOURS UNTIL TWO P.M. THEN... THE END!
AND BATMAN... YOU ALSO ARE WATCHING! ARE YOU READY TO ADMIT MY GENIUS IS GREATER THAN YOURS?
QUITE
BATMAN IS ASTRE
ED ROBIN AND EVERYTHING IS PROCEEDING EXACTLY AS I FIGURED!
DO I SUPPOSE YOU'D CARE TO EXPLAIN?
I WAS ABSOLUTELY CERTAINTY THAT TWO FACE WOULD HIJACK THE URANIUM ORE SOMEWHERE OTHER THAN THE SPOT SELECTED BY HARRIS
AS HE OBVIOUSLY DID. HE WANTED US TO WALK INTO HIS TRAP

OTHERWISE, HE NEVER WOULD HAVE LET HARRIS BEGIN TO CONTACT US! THE QUESTION WAS... WHY?
AND THE ANSWER IS— THAT PAUBLE-BEALER COULDN'T MAKE A CHANCE TO GLOAT—TO HUMILIATE US!
AND HE'S WON, BATMAN! OUR BELTS ARE GONE!
—WE'VE BEEN FRISKED! WE HAVEN'T A PRAYER OF GETTING AWAY!
AWAYS! REMEMBER THE PREPARATIONS I MENTIONED? WELL, I HID A THERMAL FLARE IN MY LEFT BOOT HEEL—A PLACE I WAS CONFIDENT THE FREE HOOLIGANS SEARCH!
AND WITH A BIT OF PRESSURE, IT WILL BREAK...
SNAP!
—AND FALL INTO MY PALM!
WHEN I SNAP OFF THE TOP, THE FLARE WILL
IGNITE—AND BURN HOTTER THAN A TORCH!
SSSSSSSS!
ASBESTOS INSULATION WILL PROTECT ME!
WHILE I MELT THROUGH THE CHAIN-LINKS!

WITHIN MINUTES
PRETTY ANKY! WHENEVER I BEGIN TO THINK I'VE GOT NOTHING ELSE TO LEARN FROM YOU, YOU PROVE ME WRONG!
CALL IT EXPERIENCE! THAT AND AN UNDERSTANDING OF MY FOES WHO ARE ALIVE!
YOU LIKE TWO-FACED-NO WAY!
WHERE ROBIN HAS OBSESSED WITH THE INTERPLAY BETWEEN GOOD AND EVIL!
ME, I'M OBSESSED WITH CONVERTING MY PATIENTS HAVING BEEN UNMASKED, I'LL BE AN ORDINARY CITIZEN TONIGHT.
BUT ENOUGH PSYCHOLOGY! WE'VE GOT WORK TO DO!
FIRST, WE HAVE TO FIND OUT WHERE WE ARE... AND WHERE WE GO NEXT!
I KNOW WHERE I'M GOING—BACK TO HUDSON UNIVERSITY AND CLASSES!
FROM NOW ON, BATMAN, YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN!
SEVEN HOURS PASS... SEVEN EIGHT NINE—AND
I TRUST YOU SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES APPRECIATE YOUR SITUATION—I USE TWO HOUSES OF CONGRESS TO SAIN WEALTH—
PROVIDED THE PRESIDENT VALUES YOU. THAT IS!
TWO-FACE... I'VE JUST SPOKEN WITH THE PRESIDENT!
HE SAYS HE CAN'T DO AS YOU ASK IN THE TIME LIMIT GETS HE ASKS YOU TO RECONSIDER!
NO! ABSOLUTELY NOT!
BUT YOU WILL DIE WITH US!

SO I CAUSE YOU LIFE IS A MOMENT OF USELESS PAIN YOU REALLY THINK I FEAR DEATH?
WITH THIS BULLWHIP, I AM BLOOD PEOPLE WHO WILL PRETEND NOT TO NOTICE THE DEGLUSHASS!
THEN I CAN BURY MYSELF IN A STREAM OF DREAM BEAUTY
IS A POOR, SAD, SICK CREATURE
WONDER SORRY FOR HIM SIR GIVE YOUR PITY FOR US THE CITY THE COUNTRY!
NO MORE HOURS TICK BY AND HOST OF THIRD
THE CONGRESS THE FATAL HOUR IS NEARLY UPON US
IN FIVE MIN I PRESS THE BUTTON AND WE ARE BECOME PART OF A GRAND EVERLASTING FINAL
WORDS TWO FACE BUT UNWORTHY OF YOU
I'VE ALWAYS CONSIDERED YOU A UNIQUE VILLAIN YET YOU BEHAVE LIKE A COMMON THUG
NOW I WONDER WHY YOU DESERVED BATMAN
NOR WILL I ALLOW MYSELF TO BE TWICE BY YOU
I WARN YOU STAY BACK!
YOU'RE NOT BEING TRUE TO YOURSELF YOU'RE NOT GIVING GOOD AN EQUAL CHANCE WITH EVIL!

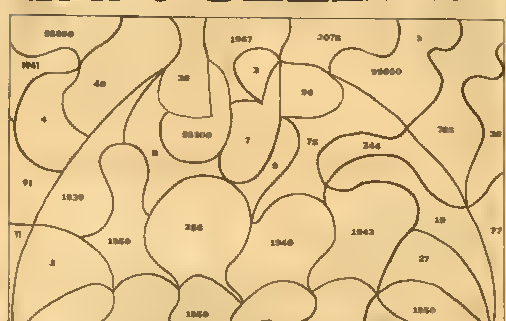
THE COIN, TWO-FACE! DO YOU DARE TO'S THE COIN?
OR WILL YOU ADMIT YOU'VE BECOME TOTALLY CORRUPT!
I'LL TOSS IT AGAINST YOU!
UNMARKED FACE LANDED UP!
PUT DOWN THE PETOMATOR AND WE'LL SETTLE WHAT'S BETWEEN US—MAN TO-MAN!
YES, YES... IT'S ALWAYS LIKE THIS IN THE END... JUST YOU AND ME!

THIS GAME OF MATTER CAN'T BE SETTLED EVEN BY THE COIN!
W-WAIT! YOU DID TRICK ME!
BOTH SIDES ARE UNMARKED!
YOU SWITCHED COINS AS YOU GAMBLED ME AFTER I'D SHOT YOU!
YOU CHEATED
WAS NECESSARY...
YOU CHEATED SO I'M NOT BOUND BY THE AGREEMENT!
THE BLOWUP DOESS OFF!

THUS, THE BATMAN
END

BAT-PUZZLE

by Bob Rozakis



Here's a special BAT PUZZLE that has no big WHIP numbers. To do it, you'll need a pen or pencil — and a brain or two. First, figure out the correct answers to the questions below. Then fill in the squares in the design above that correspond to the answers, and you'll end up with a pretty picture. If you've followed them all correctly, the sum of the numbers in the squares will equal the number BATMAN. (The answer is in the space numbered above.) Good luck.

1. What is the issue number of the BATMAN series you don't old? _____
2. DC's Riddler was created by _____ Rechalski Kane
3. How many original members were in Batman's Mystery Analysis? _____
4. Harvey Bullock possesses the sunniest colour? _____ Face
5. Batman first appeared in the year _____
6. His first appearance was in DETECTIVE COMICS _____
7. The first issue of BATMAN appeared on _____
8. Batman was one of the _____ original members of the Justice League.
9. JLA headquarters, is a strong satellite in _____ orbiting Earth.
10. A Batman has a couple of years from _____ called The Man With _____ Eyes
11. Catwoman uses a type of whip known as a _____ whip
12. The Batman TV show first appeared in _____
13. The first Batman-movie sequel appeared in _____
14. Batman created in side Clark Kent, he would have to go to _____ Clinton called

Answers on page 58

LETTERS to the BATMAN

Dear Mr. Schwartz:

Believe you were responsible for **BATMAN #258!** After all you are the editor aren't you? I don't see how you could have done it! How could you put out such a **GREAT** issue! I repeat **GREAT!!!**

Ah! Catwoman's Circus Caper. **Selina Kyle** is great! was disappointed to find that she wasn't the old villain of the story but it made a very interesting, plot anyway. The story proves that you should stick only stick with the Dynamic Duo instead of this series. The art was of course great by Novick and Dick Giordano + a beyond belief story that you least Batman's lifetime. By the way who's you color is? Whoever he is he does a great job. Excellent choice on the reprints there. All were extremely interesting and I love reading about the Bat Cave and the trophies within.

—SCOTT TAYLOR Rockville IN

(Catwoman's Circus Caper was colored by longtime DC-inkpiner Tatjana Wood. Jerry Serpe But your "Taylor" made enthusiasm for the story is not shared by our rant un-Mercy-full correspondent! **ED**)

Jubilee!!!

The Riel Radio finds a mystery almost gets to have a speed dy **Batman Robin** because the case solved but Batman still is ripped and pulling the whole thing himself. Night of the Reaper you ask? No Catwoman's Circus Caper. So jump in the lake Denny O'Neil. Robin doesn't need a mustache. Batman's Cape was more grown up and soft without a Robin to Control. And Catwoman? No go to no ruin see Bat hunters but theres tele tele sexy sought Ben Humbug!

—MERCY VAN VLACK Nanticoke PA

* * *

Dear Bat-Editor

Catwoman's Circus Caper with nostalgic elements such as Catwoman Robin and even the use of the famed Bat Cave still had the feeling of being an intro made a tale. Bruce's frustration at the end of the story — the woman I can name but is always an anonymous single — was very good. It is something that has always been in and is not only spoken of.

For one would like to see a regular romantic interest in Bruce's life. We all knew that Bruce destined to marry as shown in the Super Boss series in **WORLD'S FINEST**. Let's meet that woman.

The most interesting twist in the story is having the Catwoman NOT be the real villain. Everyone always assumed the featured criminal is the culprit. Not this time. The Brodeick criminals seem more powerful. Who is the Brodeick chief anyhow? I've not had his mood title drawings before and now I see he's even illustrated a love page story. If Bruce Wayne Hadn't Became the Batman! The page was fairly original. Who wrote it?

—RICH SAWYER LaPorte IN

(Peerless Pat Broderick, complete with his Florida support was the first artist to want under our Junior Bullpen program started in DC last summer. He has done a number of centerfold pages and features for our line of 100 page books. By the way the If Bruce Wayne feature was written by Pete Bullpen cohort, Wayne Boring. Fanboy. **ED**)

Bad Editor

BATMAN #258 and sequel dismayed. Enjoyed as well as were of last issue and the reprints were of excellent with the lead second as being the story about **Batman** joined. The short feature on the date and prehistoric Batman was a have used was well done and tongue in cheek.

But the main reason wrote this letter is that you seem to be bringing back the villains who were gone long. Ra Catwoman story comes right up to the standard set by recent issue featuring The Joker and Two Face. You see I feel that a villain moved by deep emotional reasons is a lot more interesting and realistic than one motivated by the challenge of feeding a lie to Batman. The story by the Joker and Two Face also are were fascinating for these two men are consumed by that two neurotic inner demons. Selina Kyle also The Catwoman has no such demon nor does The Penguin. So delete yes villain stories start to determine a plot pick your Bat foes with care or every item out altogether.

—ANTONIO PEDDY Bonell CA

(Okay readers what say you? Are certain villains unsuited for combat with the Caped Crusader? Which ones should we use or not use? Why? Let us know. Also let know you on what will be our next great debate in the meantime a page on our current controversy — what to do about **ROBIN** — appears elsewhere in this issue. **ED**)

* * *

BAT BIBLIOGRAPHY The Three Racketeers" came from **DETECTIVE** #31 (March 1942) while the Octopus issue **#368** 28 years later gave us 7 Wonders. Cry Wolf came from **DETECTIVE** Two Robbery Appeared in **BATMAN #28** Doc Jan 1944-45 and The Gue dis of 100 Clues from **#98** (Oct 1946). The Man With a Thousand Eyes first appeared in **WORLD'S FINEST #43** (Dec. Jan 1945 50)

OUR FIRST STORY REVOLVES AROUND THE NUMBER, TWO! THIS CASE INVOLVES TWO SMART CROOKS

IN FACT, IT'S NOT REALLY ONE STORY, BUT THREE! AND YOU CAN HEAR IT FROM THE MOUTHS OF THE THREE CRIMINALS THEMSELVES

BATMAN WITH ROBIN

THIS IS A STORY OF THREE GREAT CRIMES OF THREE GREAT FOLKS WHO FOUNDED A TRIPLE THREAT AGAINST LAW AND ORDER, SO THAT CRIMES WOULD PAY. THE BATMAN AND ROBIN THE BOY WONDER FIND THEMSELVES THESE STAR ADVENTURE WHEN THEY CLASH WITH THE TRIUMVIRATE OF TROUBLE AND SHOWN A TRI-TERRIOR EXHIBITS IN THE SAGA OF "THE THREE RACKETEERS!"

STORY: BILL FINGER
ART: DICK SPRANG

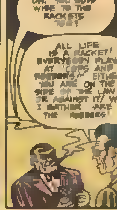
SUPPOSE YOU WERE A CRIMINAL, HAD BY MISTAKE, FOR REVENUE, PUBLICATIONS INC.

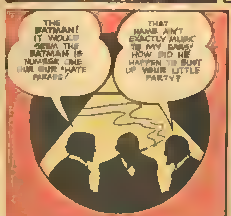
SUPPOSE YOU WERE A CRIMINAL

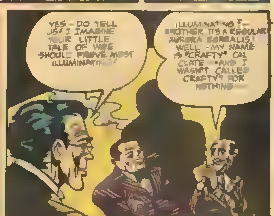
OURS BEGINS IN A SMALL ROOM WHERE THREE MEN SIT AND PLAY CARDS—

AH, I DON'T KNOW WHY I'M PLAYING CARDS AND PLAN IN MINIATURE BANKS WHEN I'M UNDER TO PLAN THINGS!

THE THREE RACKETEERS

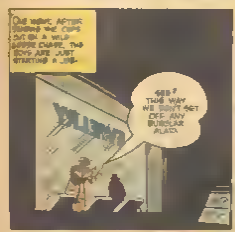


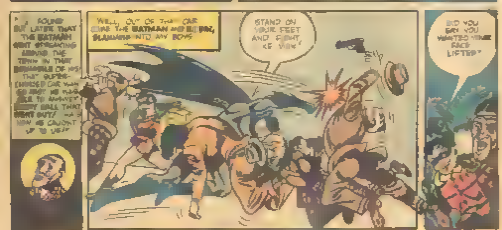


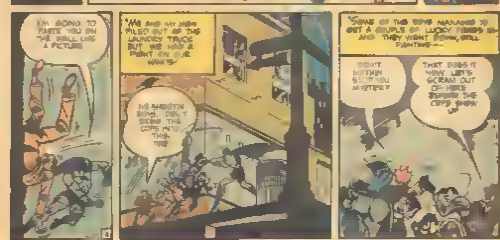


AND WHEN THE COPS GOT TO THE BANK—
NOBODY AROUND EXCEPTION
CALLING OUR 27 KEMAN JEWELRY STORE ALARMS—INVESTIGATE
THESE POOR COPS GOT MY ANGRY CALLING DOWN
BUT SEE WE GOT A CALL INVESTIGATE SOMEONE'S ALSO LOOKING ABOUT THE NATIONAL BANK
THAT HAS A PRIVATE CONTRACT TO HELP FOILED YOU MEN FROM THE FORCE SO HIS MEN COULD ROB THE JEWELRY STORE WHILE YOU WERE AWAY!
WELL, THE COPS TIRED TRACKING DOWN OUR PRIVATE PRIVATEERS, BUT
SHOULD LOOK FROM AROUND HERE?
NOTHING ABOUT! JUST THAT LAUNDRY TRUCK DOING BY. CAN'T BE THAT
OH, WASN'T IT! THE SAME SHOULD HAVE LOOKED INSIDE THAT TRUCK!
THIS IS SO NICE! SO-W-A-A ALL CROOKS ALL ASLEEP!
OH—THAT TRUCK WAS A REGULAR PATROL CAR STAND CLEANER PAL
WHA A RACKET! YOU MISTAKE A FOR CALL OFF THE COPS OUT OF THE WAY SWITCH TO ANOTHER WAVE BAND
AND GIVE THE ALL CLEAR SIGNAL TO OUR BOYS A BOTTLED SUBSTANCE BY 24 NEW WAVES! PRETTY NEAT!
IT USED TO DRIVE THE COPS CRAZY WITH FALSE FIRE ALARMS!
ONLY SINCE PETE'S STATION S-W-A-A AGAIN!
WOULDN'T THIS BURN YOU UP?
FIREHOUSE ROBBERY AT 69-91 ANY WAY!
LET'S HOPE NOT! THE REAL THINGS! I'VE GOT BELL TONES IN MY BRAIN!
YEGGS — HAD THOSE COPS RUNNING AROUND MORE CHILLED THAN A PIGEON WHEN
BUT, MA BRAIN SHOULD SET UP SOME
YES, BUT WHEN THEY LIKE A LITTLE RAIN WOULD FALL BACK ON THE BATMAN, EH CROCKY?
SAWY THAT GUY WAS A WORKING MINED HAD HAPPENED
3
39

THE THREE RACKETEERS





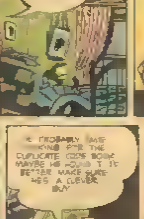


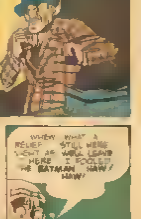
WE MADE A CLEAN GETAWAY—BUT WHO WAS I TO GUESS THAT THE BATMAN RECOGNIZED ME!
WE DID ALL RIGHT! WHO DO YOU THINK YOU'RE SO WELL ORGANIZED ONE THEN—HOW CRAFTY CAN CLAYE THE MASTERMIND BE IN THE FIRST PLACE?

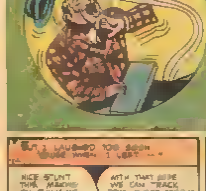
THE NEXT NIGHT, WHEN I GOT HOME—I DISCOVER MY APARTMENT AS AND WITH THE PLACE LOOKED LIKE A CYCLONE HAD PREVIOUSLY THROWN IT!
HOLY CATS! SOMEBODY'S BEEN SEARCHING MY PLACE!

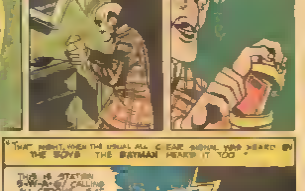
A BUM LEFT FOR ME? WONDER WHATTA IN IT?

A RAT! THE BATMAN HE'S BEEN HERE!

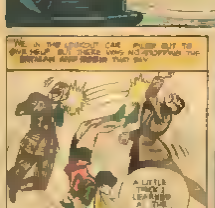

I PROBABLY HAVE GOTTEN THE DUPLICATE CODE BOOK. MAYBE HE FOUND IT. IT'S BETTER MAKE SURE HE'S A CLEAR BUM

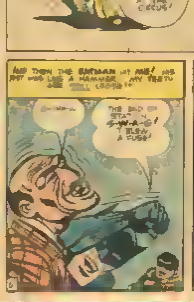

WHEW! WHAT A RELIEF! STILL HERE! LIGHT AS WELL. LEAVE HERE. I FOOLED THE BATMAN. HAW! HAW! HAW!

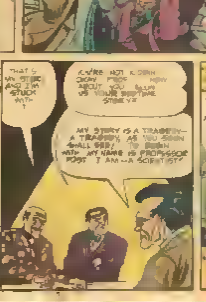

BUT I FOOLED YOU BOTH TOGETHER WHEN I LEFT—
NICE STUNT THE MASTER CAL THINK WE HAD EVERYONE THE PLACE YOU THAT HE SHOWED YOU WHERE HE HID THAT CODE BOOK
WITH THAT BOOK WE CAN TRACK DOWN THE CRIMINAL TONIGHT! LETS MOVE!
OH!!! THOSE TWO SMART GUYS HAD BEEN HIDING IN A CLOSET ALL THE TIME!

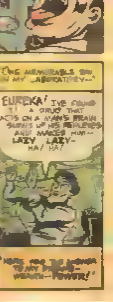

THAT NIGHT, WHEN THE USUAL ALL CLEAR SIGNAL WAS HEARD BY THE BOYS THE BATMAN HEARD IT TOO.
HIS IS STATION 5-A-NIGHT CALLING ALL CROSS! 5-A! ALL CLEAR! PROCEED!
6:45 THAT'S A BUS STOP AT BOWER AND 4TH STREET

THE THREE RACKETEERS



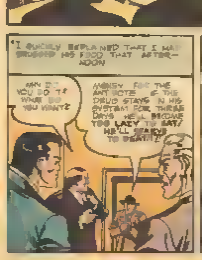


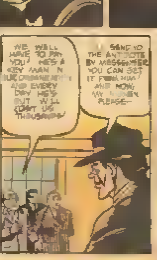


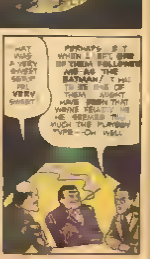


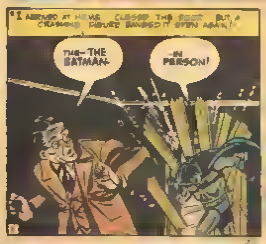
THE WEST END—IN A BUSY STOCK EXCHANGE OFFICE—
MR. CHARTERS—YOU THE STOCKBROKERS ARE WRITING ME YOUR OPINION ON OUR NEW POLICY
HO HUM—BUSINESS BUSINESS—I'M TIRED TO WORK—THINK I'LL GO HOME TO SLEEP

WE CAN'T GO WITHOUT HIM!
WELL LOOK WALLACE WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIM?
I DON'T TELL YOU WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIM! JUST LAZY!


I QUICKLY EXPLAINED THAT I HAD BROUGHT HIS FOOD THAT AFTERNOON
ANY IDEA YOU GO THE WHOLE DAY YOU WANTS?
MAYBE FOR THE ANTIDOTE OF THE DRUG THAT'S IN HIS SYSTEM FOR THREE DAYS! HE'S TOO LAZY TO EAT! HE'LL STARVE TO DEATH!

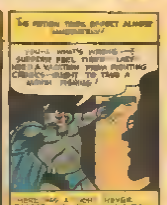

WE WILL HAVE TO PAY YOU! HE'S A VERY MAN IN THE CHEMISTRY! AND EVERY DAY HE'S THERE WE LOSE CONT US THOUSANDS!
I SEND TO THE ANTIDOTE BY MESSENGER YOU CAN GET IT FROM HIM! AND NOW WE'LL BEGIN PLEASE—

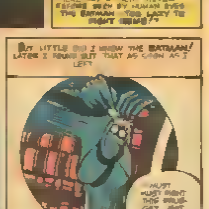

THAT WAS A VERY SWEET SERVICE! VERY SWEET!
PERHAPS BUT WHEN I LEFT ONE OF THEM FOLLOWED ME—AS THE BATMAN! I HAD TO BE RID OF THEM AGAIN! HAVE THEY THAT WAYNE FELLOW IN HIS SERVICE? HE MUCH THE PLAYBOY TYPE—OH WELL

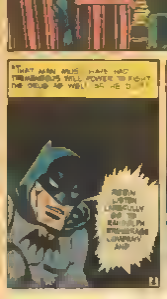

I ARRIVED AT HOME CLOSED THE DOOR BUT A CRAWLING FIGURE BARGED IT OPEN AGAIN!
THE—THE BATMAN!
IN PERSON!

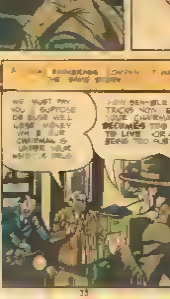
O NOW A CHAIR

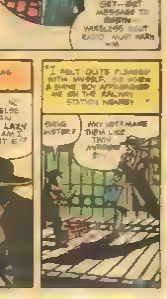
THE THREE RACKETEERS











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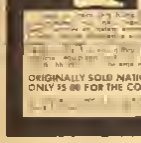

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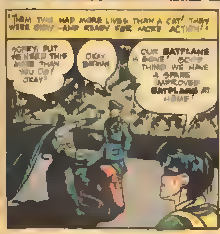
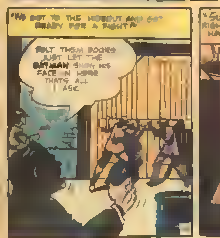
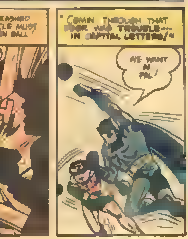
NEWS
CITY BANKS PREY OF TANK BANDITS
"YES—I HAD EVERYTHING FIGURED OUT—BUT I FORGOT ONE GUY—THE BATMAN!"
"YOU GOT—YOU FUTURE HAS BEEN—I'M TELLIN' YOU, BABY—AS GOOD AS WRITTEN DOWN IN STONE!"
LOOK, BATMAN!
OKAY, BUDDY, LET'S SEE HOW THE BOTTLES—
FLAMES!
THEN THROWS IT—AND BOOM—THE WHOLE LOT LIT UP LIKE A TOWN CARNIVAL!
"THE BOTTLES HIT THE TANK STRUCTURE AND EXPLODED OVER AND OVER—AND ALL OVER BA."
"THEN THAT KID STARTED THROWIN' FLAMING TORCHES AT THE TANKS."
"THEY'RE BOOM THE INSIDE OF EACH TANK FULL LIKE A HOT STOVE."
LEAVE OUTA HERE!
AN' I GETTA LIKE FRIED CHICKEN!
"WE HOPPED OUTA THEY TANKS LIKE THEY WAS PRISON—AND INTO OUR TRUCKS! BUT I HAD MY ACE IN THE HOLE, TOO!"
GIVE IT TO EM' BLAST EM OUTA THE SKY!
"THE TOP OF OUR TRUCKS SLIDED BACK! I HAD MACHINE GUNS PLANTED THERE!"

THE THREE RACKETEERS







I CAN'T SEE!
TEAR GAS!
THOSE TEAR GAS BOMBS WE FOUND IN THE MOTORCYCLE CERTAINLY CAME IN HANDY, DIDN'T THEY?
I HOPE THE BOSS'S TIRE WASN'T TOO MUCH?
HEY -- IF YOU GENIUSES ARE READY, THE WARDEN WILL ASSIGN YOU TO YOUR CELLS
YEAH ... OUT WE AN' ... FOR A NEW RACKET
THE BATMAN

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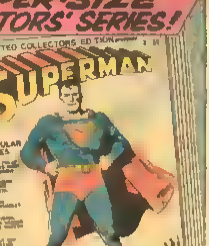

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SEVEN HAS LONG BEEN CONSIDERED A MYSTIC NUMBER. THERE ARE SEVEN DAYS IN THE WEEK. THE ANCIENTS KNEW OF SEVEN PLANETS, SEVEN METALS
7
AND SEVEN WONDERS OF THE WORLD! IF YOU'VE READ ABOUT THOSE WONDERS, SEE IF YOU CAN SPOT THE WAY THE GANG CHIEF IN THIS TALE WORKED THEM INTO HIS CRIMES!
NIGHT AFTER NIGHT THE SUPER-SPECTACULAR CRIMES WENT ON! BUSINESS SEEMED A VERY BUSY ONE! THEN LESS MONEY! LESS JEWELS! LESS PROFITS THAT WERE THE CROWNING TO RIPS!
ALL WERE A VITAL PART OF THE GRAND-SCALE CLEVER SCHEME WHICH WERE TO BRING BATMAN AND ROBIN DEEP INTO THEIR ARMCHAIR REGIS! AND THEN THEY BECAME ENTANGLED IN THESE PLUNDERING PLOTS. THEY FOUND THEMSELVES ABSOLUTELY BAFFLED BY THE
BATMAN
WITH ROBIN THE BOY WONDER
7 WONDER CRIMES OF GOTHAM CITY!
THAT'S ALL AMMUNITION THE LATEST IN THE SERIES OF MYSTIFYING AND SPECTACULAR ROBBERIES PLAGUING GOTHAM CITY!
STORY LARCHER-REX
ART BOB KANE & JOE GIELLA

THE GUNMEN ON STREL ON THE BANK OF THE RIVER REALIZE THE CHAMPIONSHIP HOCKEY GAME BETWEEN THE GOTHAM CITY GARGOYLES AND THE MUSCLE BOYS IS ...
THE PUCK'S BEHIND IT! AT BOUNDS!
THE REFEREE DROPS A NEW PUCK FOR THE FACE-OFF...
AND WHEN STRIC MEETS PUCK...
THIS PUCK IS— BLOODY HOT!
VA-BLAM!
NOTHING REMAINS OF THE NEW PUCK BUT SOME ASH. IT'S THE BEST GOLDEN HARDS AND GOLDEN HAND GRENADE.
IN MEN IN MASKS HOVE BEEN ARRIVING THE GLITTERING STRANGERS IN EXCLUSIVITY
THESE RICH SOBBERS TIDDLY BOWS SURE CARRY FAT WALLETS!
AND THE A W WAS PRESENT TO THE HILT!
WHAT OF THE DRAWING CRIME-GROUP PLANNING ACROSS THE METROPOLIS...
POLICE COMMISSIONER SCHOLEN SAYS THERE'S BEEN A TOTAL BLACKOUT ON THE BANDITS!
TELL HIM WE'RE ON OUR WAY!
AND WHEN THE DYNAMIC DUO ARRIVES THE GREAT BRAINS PALACE...
AND THE CRIMINOS DON'T LEAVE A CLUE OFFICER?
NOT UNLESS ICI CALL THAT A CLUE BATMAN! LOOK UP THERE!

HANGING FROM THE RAFTERS IS A GIGANTIC BALLOON FIGURE OF

BATMAN—ONE MORE JUNK!

A HUGE SEVEN FOOT PAINTED ON TO PANEL!

SAY, YOU DON'T SUPPOSE THAT MEANS THERE'RE GOING TO BE SEVEN CRIMES OF THIS TYPE TO-DAY!

ONLY TIME WILL TELL, ROBIN!

FATHER WHICHEVER-BACKER!

THE SYMBOL OF GOTHAM CITY! WHAT'S IT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?

NEXT—EVEN NOW AT THE ARCHITECTURAL FAIR—WHERE "GOTHAM CITY, WESTERN'S TOMORROW" IS BEING HELD—

I KNOW WHAT THESE FORMER AND PRESENT DRY NOISES ARE LIKE! PRINCE'S TO LINE TO SEE THE HOUSE OF THE FUTURE EVERYBODY'S TALKING ABOUT!

IT'S MADE FROM A SPECIAL NEW LIGHT-WEIGHT MATERIAL, STRONGER THAN STEEL!

WHY THERE'S WAYNE MANOR! MAKES ME FEEL SO OUT AT HOME!

I WHEN IT HAD BEEN SELECTED FOR DEDICATION IN THE EXHIBIT BUT I KEPT IT AS A SURPRISE FOR YOU, DICK!

MOMENTS LATER, BRUCE (BATMAN) WAYNE AND DICK (ROBIN) GRAYSON STRIP INTO THE LIGHT-WEIGHT HOUSE OF THE FUTURE

WOW! SPECIAL PANELS TO SHOW THE LATEST NEWS STORIES! AN INBUILT TELEVISION SET TO FOCUS ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD YOU WANT TO PICK UP A CHANNEL! BUTTONS TO START FOOD COOKING TO CLEAN ROOMS AUTOMATICALLY—BUT BUT

BUT WHAT, DICK?

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Comes with everything Big Jim needs to practice the martial arts of Kung Fu and Karate!

Here we see Big Jim about to break a _____ board with his Karate chop

Big Jim's Pro Sports Gear:

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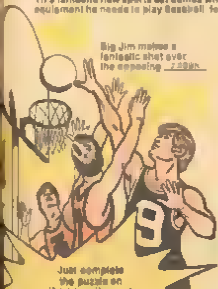


Big Jim makes a fantastic shot over the opposing _____

The bases are loaded. Big Jim's team is losing 4-1. Big Jim swings at the ball _____ and hits a grand slam home _____

Big Jim kicks a field _____ and saves the day for his team.

Just complete the puzzle on the opposite page, and who knows? You may have _____ $100!

THERE ISN'T A SINGLE LIGHT OR LIGHT BULB ANYWHERE IN THE ROOM! THEY SEEMED TO BURN IN THE LIGHTS!

NO, THEY DIDN'T DO IT. I JUST PRESS THAT BUTTON ON THE WALL!

AS DICK FINKELMEIER TOUCHES THE BUTTON, THE WALLS BEGIN TO GLOW!

TERRIFIC! NO LIGHT BULBS TO CHANGE! NOTHING TO SHORT-CIRCUIT! NO FUSES TO BLOW OUT!

IT'S CALLED AMBIENT LUMINESCENCE, DICK!

BRIGHTER! EVEN THOSE WALLS... BRIGHTER AND BRIGHTER UNTIL... HEY! BLAZE WITH BLINDING INCANDESCENCE!

HEY! THOSE WALLS ARE SO BRIGHT THEY'RE AFFECTING MY EYES! I CAN'T SEE!

SCHWITTING'S HIDING! DICK! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE, FAST!

HEAD DOWN, ARMS UP TO PROTECT THEIR EYES, MAN AND BOY ARE BLINDED BY THEIR PAINFUL GOAL AND FORCED TOWARD WRONG MAINS!

I HEAR SOUNDS OF SCUFFLING, BRUCE — AS IF MEN WERE FIGHTING SOME WHERE NEAR HERE!

SO DO I! I HAVE THE FEELING THE INTENSE LIGHT THAT'S COMING FROM THAT LIGHT HOUSE IS SHINING THAT WAY SO SOMEBODY CAN SEE THIS DISPLAY, BLIND!!

WE'LL GO INTO OUR ROUTINE NOW! NOBODY WILL SEE US CHANGE!

SO WE'LL GO THE WAY... THERE ARE ROOMS AROUND AS I SUPPOSE... THEY MUST BE ABLE TO SEE WITH SPECIAL GOGGLES! SO WE'LL CHOOSE AN UNSTUDIED COURSE TO MAKE OUR CHANGE!

WHEN THE CHANGE—EVER IS MADE...

BATMAN — WE STILL CAN'T SEE! THE LIGHT IS TRIPLE BLINDING! IT'S EVERYWHERE LIKE THE GLARE OF SUN — LIGHT ON ICE OR SNOW!

EXACTLY! SO WHAT DO WE DO ABOUT IT?

WE MAKE SNOW GOGGLES!

WITH THESE SUNGLASSES FROM THE ULTRA-CHIC LANE APARTMENT OF THE LOVELY BELLE AND A CAN OF BLACK SHOE POLISH -- WE CAN MAKE PERFECT DOMINO GOGGLES!
USING THE FORMULA THAT'S EGENTRICALLY SLOTTED TO PRINT FULL VISION YET KEEP OUT GLARE!
APPLYING THE SHOE POLISH, THE DYNAMIC DUO DON THEIR GLARE GOGGLES...
IT'S WORKING! MY EYESIGHT IS COMING BACK!
THIS GOGGLE DESIGN HAS BEEN PERFECTED BUT MY OPTICAL SYSTEM!
THERE MEAN GARY CHOKLE THE BOND OF STYLE IN THE LIVING ROOM BELOW! WHEN THEY COME CLEANING UP THE MESS HE'LL BE DOWN THAT!
THERE THEY'S ARE! STEALING THE BIGGEST, MOST ILL-GOTTEN MY FATHER SOUGHT IN YEARS!
BRUCE WAYNE LOANED THEM TO THE DISPLAY... BUT THEY'RE ALL STOLEN!
BATMAN'S FIRST MOVE -- TO SLAM A DYNAMO ACROSS THE ROOM!
THAT OUGHT TO UPSET THEIR AND THEIR CRIMINAL PLANS!
WE'D BETTER WHIP OUT OUR GUNS --!
BATMAN'S NEXT MOVE -- TO UNAPPLIED UNDER THE DYNAMO AND...
NO SHOOTING, BOYS! BULLETS ARE OFF LIMITS!

BOP!!
THIS'LL TAKE YOU OUT OF THE ACTION!
HIS FEET HIT THE FLOOR JUST AS...
WE'VE GOT YOU PINNED IN MY SIGHTS BATMAN
YOU WOULD'NT DARE
NOW YOU DON'T!
MY HEELS HIT THE CARPET AT JUST THE RIGHT ANGLE TO TAKE IT RIGHT FROM UNDER YOU!
THE MASKED MANHUNTER WHEELS AND DEALS IN ALMOST THE SAME MOTION
AND HERE'S MY RIGHT FIST TO FIT THE RIGHT JOB!
TO ONE SIDE OF THE COWLED CRUSADER, THE TEEN-AGE THUNDERBOLT HAS BEEN BORN IN FIST FLYING FURY
THANKS FOR REMOVING THE EXPENSIVE CANVAS FROM THAT FRAME
I ENABLED ME TO FRAME YOU IN MY SIGHTS!

WHAT A PERFECT PORTRAIT FOR THE HOUSE GALLERY!

WATCH OVER OUR ARTWORKS, ROBIN! I'M LEAVING FOR THE HOUSE TO SHUT OFF THE BUILDING LIGHTS.

THEN WHY NOT CALL THE POLICE CARS THEM AWAY, BATMAN!

MOMENTS LATER IN THE HOUSE OF THE FUTURE

THERE'S NO WAY TO SHUT OUT THE WALL LIGHTING - EXCEPT BY SMASHING THE MAIN SOURCE - THIS MACHINE!

WHEN EVERYTHING RETURNS TO NORMAL AND THE FAIR GUARDS APPEAR

THERE WERE BANDS OF ROBBERS ALL OVER THE FAIR! YOU AND ROBIN CAPTURED ONE OF THEM - BUT THE OTHERS GOT AWAY WITH SOME VALUABLE ART TREASURES!

I'M MORE CONVINCED THAN EVER THERE'S SOME CRIMINAL MASTERMIND BEHIND THESE ROBBERIES - BUT WHAT'S HIS UNIQUE PATTERN?

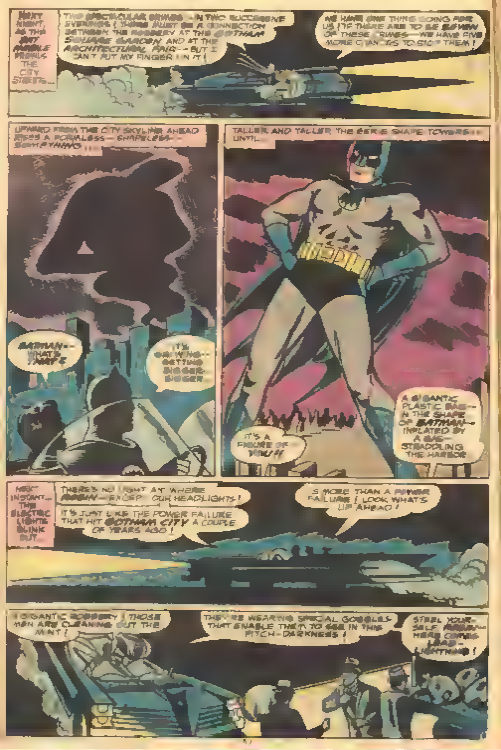
I AM ME, THE SCARECROW! I HEARD YOU WERE UNDERFOOT! THE RIDDLER IS THERE WERE NO RIDDLES TO SOLVE! THE SCARECROW RANSOM TWICE

MAYBE OUR PRISONERS CAN TELL US!

THE CAPTURED MEN ARE NO HELP!

I'M GOING TO ASK YOU SOME QUESTIONS, BUT UNDER THE LAW, I MUST ADVISE YOU OF YOUR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS! YOU ARE ENTITLED TO A LAWYER. YOU NEED NOT ANSWER

HOLD IT, BATMAN! WE KNOW OUR RIGHTS AND WE AIN'T TALKIN'!


NEXT NIGHT, AS THE BAT MOBILE PROWLS THE CITY STREETS...
THE SPECTACULAR CRIMES—IN TWO SUCCESSIVE EVENINGS! THERE MUST BE A CONNECTION BETWEEN THE ROBBERY AT THE GOTHAM SQUARE GARDEN AND AT THE ARCHITECTURAL PARK—BUT I CAN'T PUT MY FINGER ON IT!
WE HAVE ONE THING GOING FOR US, THE THREE ARE TO BE SEEN ON OF THESE CRIMES—WE HAVE FIVE MORE CITIES TO CLOSE THEM!
UPWARD FROM THE CITY SKYLINE AHEAD IS A FEARLESS—SHAPELESS—SOMETHING!!!
BATMAN—WHAT'S THAT?
IT'S GOING—GETTING BIGGER—BIGGER—BIGGER
TALLER AND TALLER THE EERIE SHAPE TOWERS!! UNTIL...
IT'S A FIGURE OF YOU!!
A GIGANTIC PLASTIC FIGURE IN THE SHAPE OF BATMAN—INFLATED BY A GAS—STRADDLING THE HARBOR
NEXT INSTANT—THE ELECTRIC LIGHTS BLINK OUT
THERE'S NO LIGHT AT WHERE ROBIN—EXCEPT OUR HEADLIGHTS!
IT'S JUST LIKE THE POWER FAILURE THAT HIT GOTHAM CITY A COUPLE OF YEARS AGO!
IS MORE THAN A POWER FAILURE! LOOK WHAT'S UP AHEAD!
A GIGANTIC BOOBERY! THOSE MEN ARE CLEANING OUT THE MINT!
THEY'RE WEARING SPECIAL GOGGLES THAT ENABLE THEM TO SEE IN THIS PITCH-DARKNESS!
STEAL YOURSELF, ROBIN! HERE COMES BAT-LIGHTNING!

THEY MUST POUNCE! THEY'RE BEHIND US!

WHY WE'RE BLIND AS BATS!

IF THE INSIDERS LET THEM SEE IN THIS DARKNESS, WHAT'S THE R. POWER SOURCE?

ONE OF THE [illegible] COMPARTMENTS IS [illegible] WITH AN ABSORBENT [illegible] CONTACT LENSES!

START OFF THE MOST [illegible] INFRA-RED THAT [illegible] SEE IN THE MOST UTTER DARKNESS!

TACKS IT ON OUR HEADS! THAT'S MAMMOTH BATMAN'S BLAZING RE THE SUN!

I'M TRYING INFRA-RED RAYS! THERE'S [illegible] POWER SOURCE—CLEANING UP HOW THOSE CROOKS CAN SEE SO WELL IN THE DARK!

OUTSMART FLASHER'S BAT-BOMB, AFTERWARD SUPS A BAT-BARANG

IF THOSE CROOKS THINK THEY CAN SKIP THE TUNE OF A BAT-HORN!

I'LL SEE 'EM STAGED WITH A BATARANG, SEE?

BEHIND THE WHIZZING BATARANG, THE TRIO OF THIEVES LEAPS HIGH

HEY! HOW CAN WE SHOOT 'EM IF WE'RE BEFORE US?

WE GOTTA MOVE OR WE'LL GET IT IN THE BATARANG!

OH, HE'S BAT-CRAZY!

AS BATMAN STARTS SWINGING THE BAT-ROPE, THE CRAWLING MEN SCRAMBLE ——
FIRST GUN THAT MISSES —GETS MY FIST AS A PIECE.
SLIP IN—GET MY FEET TANGLED UP!
AND HERE'S THE WINNER!
AND HERE'S WHERE BATMAN GETS UP FOR A DEAD LOSER!
THE HALLOWED FRANKENSTEIN LEAPS LIKE AN ANGRY BAT AND—
BACON MY SHOW ROOM—
BUT I HAD TO GET THAT OLD MAN TO FIRE AT EMPTY AIR!
TWISTING IN MIDAIR, THE STEEL-THEWED LEGS OF THE CAPED CRUSADER LOCK IN A BREATH-SQUEEZING SCISSORS GRIP..
—AND HERE'S GOING UP!
AND NORTHWEST GOING UP!
—HERE'S BIG DOWN!
KI-PLUNK

WELL, WE CAUGHT THAT!! MORE OF EM ANYHOW!

YES—BUT I'M A PUZZLING THERE WERE OTHERS WHO GOT AWAY WITH OTHER LOOT!

AND STILL NO PATTERN TO THESE SPECTACULAR CRIMES THAT I CAN SEE!

LATER IN THE BATCAVE, AFTER THE BALL GEN—BATMAN HAS BEEN UNLAIRED—AND THE LOOTS ARE ON AGAIN IN GOTHAM CITY...

THREE CRIMES SHOULD BE ENOUGH TO ADD UP TO SOME SORT OF COMICAL DEMON-NATOR.

LET'S SUM UP WHAT WE KNOW SO FAR!

GOTHAM GARDEN + HANGING FATHER KNICKERBOCKER

ARCHITECTURAL FAIR + A LIGHT WEIGHT HOUSE

A COLOSSAL BATMAN THAT GLOWS!

BRAIN—THAT COLOSSAL BATMAN" KINDA A BULL!

I STRADDLED GOTHAM HANGING—JUST LIKE THE COLOSSUS OF RHODES!

AND THE COLOSSUS OF RHODES WAS ONE OF THE SEVEN WONDERS OF THE ANCIENT WORLD!

THAT THIS IN WITH THAT THEURE SEVEN ON THE BACK OF FATHER KNICKERBOCKER?

IT'S CLEAR ON UP NOW! THE WAREHOUSE AT THE BARGAIN SQUARE THE HANGING GARDENS OF BABYLON, ANOTHER ANCIENT WONDER!

FINALLY—THE "LIGHT HOUSE" AT THE FAIR—CORRESPONDS TO THE LIGHTHOUSE OF PHAROS, STILL ANOTHER ANCIENT WONDER!

OUR MYSTERIOUS MASTERMIND IS COMMITTING SEVEN WONDER CRIMES IN GOTHAM CITY, PATTERNED AFTER THE SEVEN WONDERS OF THE ANCIENT WORLD!

NOW, IF WE CAN ONLY DETERMINE WHAT THE NEXT WONDER CRIME WILL BE, WE COULD BE ON HAND TO NAB HIM!

I REMEMBER READING THAT THE WORLD'S BIGGEST DIAMOND — THE JUBBERNAUTI — WILL BE ON DISPLAY TOMORROW AT THE JEWELRY TEMPLE OF ARTEMIS.

ARTEMIS — THE GREEK MAIDEN WHO IS THE ROMAN GODDESS DIANA

AND THE TEMPLE OF DIANA HAS ANOTHER OF THE ANCIENT WONDERS! BUT — WE'RE IN BUSINESS!

THE FOLLOWING EVENING, IN AN INNER OFFICE OF THE JEWELRY TEMPLE OF ARTEMIS...

I'M GETTING FROM "I CUE LINES" TV SET UP ANABLES US TO WATCH THE JUBBER NAUT DIAMOND IN THE MAIN SALON. BUT NOTHING SPECTACULAR IS HAP-

HOLD ON! I'M THE DIAMOND'S TALKING!

NO ONE MOVES! EVERYBODY STAY MOTIONLESS

SO! ONE OF YOU DID MOVE! VERY WELL. NOW MY BEAM WILL KEEP YOU ALL FROZEN TO THE SPOT!

WHILE IN THE INNER OFFICE

LET'S GO ROBIN! AND FROM THE WAY THAT CRYSTAL BALL IS SPINNING

MASTERMIND USED A SONIC BEAM TO PARALYZE THE PEOPLE IN THE MAIN SALON. SO WE'LL TO INSERT BAT-PLUGS FROM OUR UTILITY BELTS TO PREVENT THE HAPPENING TO US!

AS I DIVERTED MY EYES FROM SCREENING THE CROWD WHO'D TURN TO LOOK AT ME — WHICH THIS ONE DID!

HE'S THE MASTERMIND! HEAR HIS EAR-PLUGS — AND HEARING VENTRILOQUISM IS WHAT MAKES THE DIAMOND SPEAK!

SH CROOKS! HERE THEY SELVES! THE CALL!

A BIGGY BLOCK-- LIKE A COUPLE OF BLACKJACKS!

I'M DOWN-- BUT THOSE THE CROOKS WHO ARE GOING-- OUT!

TOO BAD I'M WEARING EAR-PLUGS! THESE CRAZY CRASHING SOUNDS WOULD MAKE SWEET MUSIC TO MY EARS!

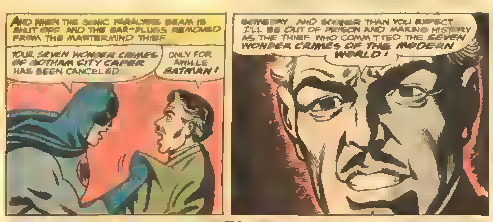
BANG!

LET US NOW PAN OVER TO BATMAN WHO HAS JUST KAYOED TWO MORE OF THE GANG.

NABBED THE LAST TWO FROM BEHIND --

WHEN THESE TWO BOYS WAKE UP IN JAIL THEY'LL BE SEEING STARS-- PHYSICALLY AS WELL AS MENTALLY!

KRACCK!


AND WHEN THE SONIC PARALYZER BEAM IS SHUT OFF, AND THE BAR-PLUGS REMOVED FROM THE MARTBERING THIEF,
YOU'LL SEWN HOWARD CRIMES OF GOTHAM CITY CAPER HAS BEEN CANCELED!
ONLY FOR WHILE BATMAN!
SUTTERY, AND SCRIBER THAN YOU SUSPECT. I'LL BE OUT OF PRISON AND MAKING HISTORY AS THE THIEF WHO COMMITTED THE SEVEN WONDER CRIMES OF THE MODERN WORLD!
IN THE BATCAVE AFTER THE LIGHT HAS BEEN REPAIRED AND RE-TURNED
WHAT AN EGOTIST! IMAGINE BOASTING HE'LL GO DOWN IN HISTORY AS THE GREATEST THIEF OF ALL TIME!
FIVE SO MASTER PICK-POCKET AS IMPOSSIBLE A STUNT ON ASIAN INVINCIBLE PERFECT CO-EXISTING WITH AN IRREFUTABLE FORCE!
SINCE HISTORY WILL RECORD BATMAN AND ROBIN AS THE GREATEST OF ALL CRIM NAL-ATCHERS, THAT EGOTIST-BRAGGART WILL NEVER ACHIEVE OBJECTIVE!
THE END

COMING IN THE NEXT BATMAN
DEC #253
THE MASKED MANHUNTER AGAIN TEAMS WITH THAT OTHER NEMESIS OF EVIL ON THE
NIGHT OF THE SHADOW!
TWO DREAD PROWLERS OF THE DARK IN ONE GREAT NEW NOVEL!
EXTRA!
YOU'LL SEE ALL OF THESE PEOPLE PLAYING THE SAME ROLE IN FIVE FANTASTIC TALES! YES THEY ALL IMPERSONATE
ALFRED
ROBIN
BRUCE WAYNE
PLUS
TWO MEMBERS OF THE JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA!
THE BATMAN
WAIT! BRUCE WAYNE IS THE BATMAN! HOW CAN HE IMPERSONATE HIMSELF?
FIND OUT IN THE NEXT ISSUE ON SALE THE LAST WEEK IN AUGUST!

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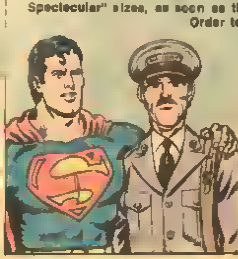

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SOMEONE ONCE OFFERED A BIT OF ADVICE TO THIEVES. NEVER STEAL ANYTHING SMALL. AND BOY DO OUR OLD BUDDY THE CAVALIER TAKE THAT TO HEART.
20
HE SURE DID, ROBIN! HE STOLE TWENTY TONS OF LIVING... OF A FULL-GROWN WHALE!
BATMAN
ROBIN
-THE BOY WONDER-
A CROOK FOR THE AGES IS THE CUNNING CAVALIER, THIS SWASHBUCKLING SWORDSMAN OF CRIME! FOR IN A SINGLE BOLD LEAP HE SWINGS FROM THE GARNERING OF MINIATURE BOOTY—TRINKETS AND GADGETS AND ODD BRIC-A-BRAC—TO THE MOST COLOSSAL LOOT IN THE WORLD! BUT THERE'S NO BLUNT, THE MIGHTY BATMAN AND ROBIN, AS THEY TAKE TO THE TRAIL OF THE ROMANTIC ROGUE IN HIS LATEST PUZZLE OF THE "TWENTY-TON ROBBERY!"
ART: DICK SPRANG
1944 BY DC COMICS, INC.
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UNMASKED BY THE BATMAN AND ROBIN AS MORTIMER DRAKE, A PLAYBOY IN BRUCE WAYNE'S OWN SOCIAL SET THE DASHING CAVALIER LURKS IN A SHABBY SECTION OF GOTHAM CITY.

LUCIFER TAKE THAT MEDDLESOME PAIR! THEY HAVE FOUND THE CAVALIER OUT AS MORTIMER DRAKE! I CAN NO LONGER APPEAR IN MY OWN IDENTITY.

BUT THAT'S EASILY FIXED! WITH MODERN MAKEUP I CAN CHANGE MY APPEARANCE AS OFTEN AND COMPLETELY AS I WANT! AND AS FOR A NAME—ALBERT FOSTER WILL DO AS WELL AS ANY!

HA HA! BATMAN OR NO BATMAN, THE CAVALIER WILL CONTINUE HIS CRIMINAL CAREER ... AND MORE SPECTACULARLY THAN EVER!

SOON IN A FAVORITE UNDERWORLD AMUSEMENT CENTER

SO YOU'RE THE CAVALIER AND YOU WANT US TO THROW IN WITH YOU, HUH? WHAT D'YOU TAKE US FOR—CHUMPS? HOW DO WE KNOW YOU'RE THE CAVALIER?

A SIMPLE MATTER TO PROVE!

ON GUARD!

YIPE!

ZUT! SO!

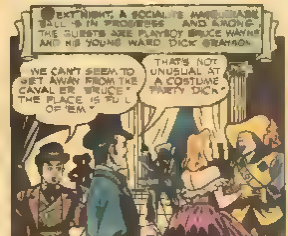
DIDYA SEE THAT? ONLY THE CAVALIER COULDA USED A STICK THAT WAY!

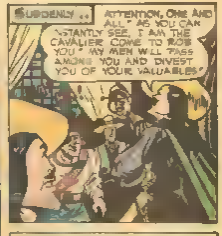
FOLLY NOW WE KNOW WHAT THE CAVALIER REALLY LOOKS LIKE!

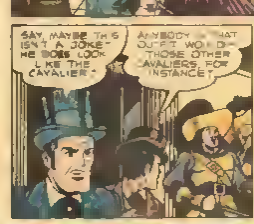
WELL, WORK WITH YOU, CAVALIER, BUT NOT FOR THEM LITTLE TRINKETS YOU USED TO GO AFTER!

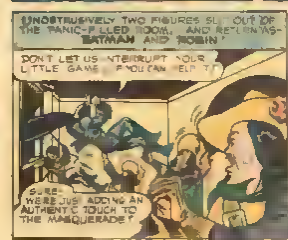
NO DONTS—FIRST, YOU'LL DO NOT KNOW WHAT I LOOK LIKE FOR I HAVE MANY IDENTITIES! SECOND, YOU PROVIDE THE BRAWN AND I THE WIT, AND WE SHALL MAKE MORE COIN OF THE REALM THAN YOU EVER DREAMED POSSIBLE!

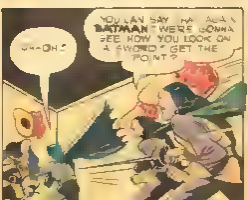
TWENTY-TON ROBBERY



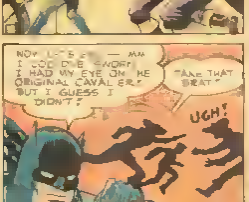


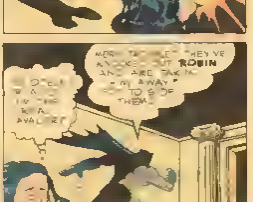


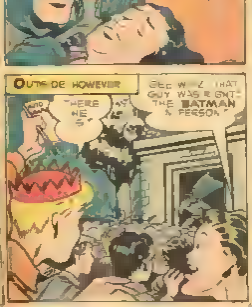


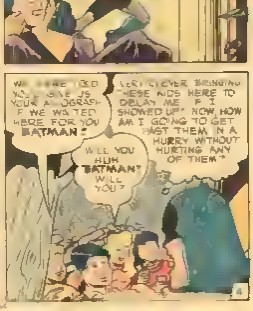

YOU CAN SAY HA HA HA BATMAN WERE GONNA SEE HOW YOU LIKE ON A SWORD? GET THE POINT?
UH-OH.

BET YOU DID!
CRACK
THERE'S SLEEP TIGHT!


NOW LET'S SEE — MM I YOU DIE SWORD I HAD MY EYE ON HE ORIGINAL CAVALIER BUT I GUESS I DIDN'T
TAKE THAT BRAT!
UGH!


MORE TROUBLE! THEY'VE ATTACKED BUT ROBIN AND ARE TAKING MY AWAY TO DO THEM
ROBIN


OUTSIDE HOWEVER
SEE WHY THAT GUY WASN'T THE BATMAN IN PERSON
WHO
THERE HE IS!


WE WERE TOLD NO, ONE IS YOUR AUTOGRAPH IF WE WAITED HERE FOR YOU BATMAN!
I'LL NEVER BRING YOU HERE AND HERE TO DELAY ME IF I SHOWED UP! NOW, HOW AM I GONNA TO GET PAST THEM IN A HURRY WITHOUT HURTING ANY OF THEM?
WILL YOU HUH BATMAN? WILL YOU?

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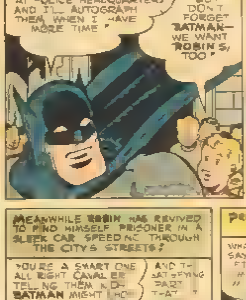
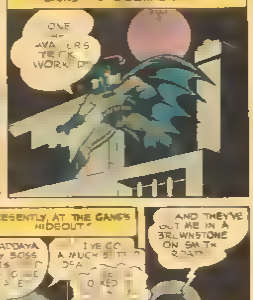
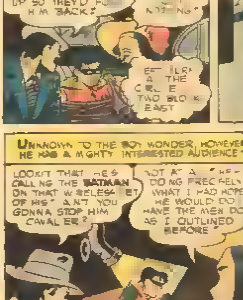






MINUTES LATER ROBIN IS HAULED FROM HIS MAKESHIFT CELL.

"PARBLEU! THIS WILL BE THE END OF A PAIR OF INFERNAL NUISANCES! BEHIND THIS WALL MY DEAR ROBIN, TWO CROSSBOWS STRAIN! IF YOU PULL AT YOUR SHACKLES ONE STEEL ARROW WILL BE RELEASED KILLING YOU INSTANTLY!"

BOY AIN'T THIS GREAT?

IF YOU STILL LIVE WHEN BATMAN RUNS RECKLESSLY THROUGH THIS PHOTO-ELECTRIC BEAM, I'VE JUST SET THE TWO OF YOU WILL DIE TOGETHER! FOR THEN ONE ARROW WILL WING TOWARD YOU AND THE OTHER TOWARD YOUR DOOMED CONQUEROR! FAREWELL FOREVER!"

"O.K. SMOKEY, NOW AM I GOING TO GET US OUT OF THIS? WE'VE GOT TO THINK FAST!"

BUT IN A MATTER OF MOMENTS, THE MANTLED MANHUNTER ARRIVES... AT A "RECKLESS RUN", AS THE CAVALIER PREDICTED!

HOLD ON ROBIN! I'LL HAVE YOU FREE IN A SECOND!

M-M-M FREE!

HE CAN'T HEAR ME... AND NOW AM I GOING TO WARN HIM THAT THESE SHACKLES WERE JUST DRIVEN INTO THE WALL? MAYBE THIS I WONDER...

ELECTRIC-SHIFT THE BOY WONDER ACTS!

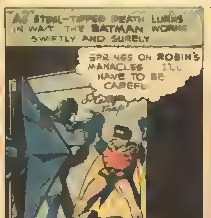
IT'S DOING THE TRICK! ALL I HAD TO DO WAS DIP MY FINGER IN THE LOOSE PLASTER DUST OF THE HOLE WHERE THE SHACKLE WAS DRIVEN AND THEN WRITE ON THE WALL!

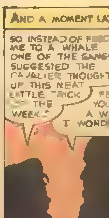
WHAT—? OHO, THE CAVALIER WAS UP TO HIS USUAL GAME AGAIN! GOOD OLD ROBIN, FIGURING A WAY TO WARN ME IN THIS!

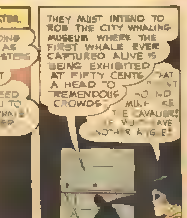
OW, WHAT— WHAT'S HAPPENING? LOOKS LIKE AN ELECTRIC EYE!

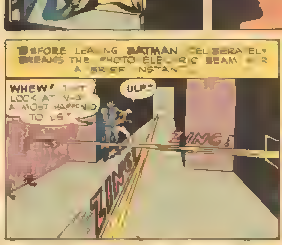
PHOTO-ELECTRIC BEAM, EH? WELL, THIS FLAMBLUNT FROM MY UTILITY BELT WILL KEEP THE CIRCUIT FROM BEING BROKEN WHILE I WALK AROUND IT AND THROUGH THE REAL BEAM! THEN WHATEVER WAS SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN—CAN'T—

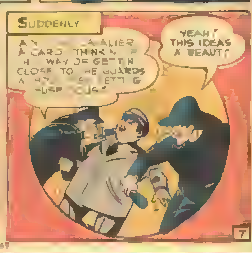
TWENTY-TON ROBBERY











AND THERE RANCHERS—

SOU'WESTERRE, THEY CALL 'EM! TO NEVER OF THOUGHT OF A GAG LIKE THIS!

ZIP IT UP AND YOU GOT A REGULAR STRAIGHTJACKET? YOU GOTTA BE A GENIUS LIKE THE CAVALIER TO THINK UP THINGS LIKE THAT

OKAY FOLKS, JUST KEEP BACK AN' SAY NOTHIN'—AN' WE WON'T HURT YOU

AS HIS WRINCHMEN ALL OVER THE AMERICAN WEST OVER, THE ROMANTIC ROBBER'S SHREWD BRAIN PLOTS SOMETHING STILL MORE STARTLING!

NAH, YOU CAN'T DO IT CAVALIER! IT'S TOO BIG EVEN FOR YOU!

HOLD YOUR TONGUE KNAVE! WHO ARE YOU TO SAY ME NAY? BRING IN THE VAN!

OUTSIDE, IN THE ALLEY, A PONDEROUS MOTOR THUNDERS THEN DEAFENINGLY APPROACHES ... AND SOON ...

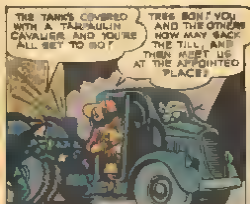
SHARP TO YON! A BREATH MORE! NOW STRAIGHT BACK! OBSERVE! WHAT MAN CAN DO, THE CAVALIER CAN UNDO!

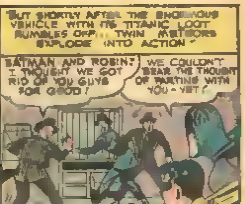
GEE WHILLIKING HE WONE IT!

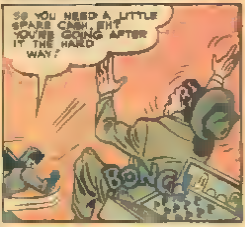
WE GOTTA HURRY BOSS!

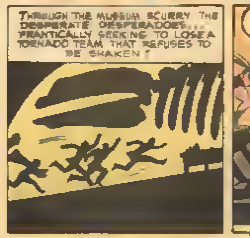
ZOUNDS! THERE CAN BE NO HASTE WHEN BEAUTY IS TO BE GARNERED! AND THIS HORSY LANTERN WILL BE A WONDEROUS ADDITION TO THIS COLLECTION I AM ABOUT TO START!

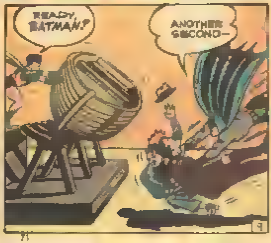
TWENTY-TON ROBBERY





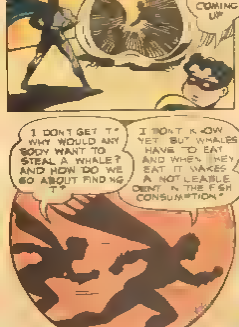


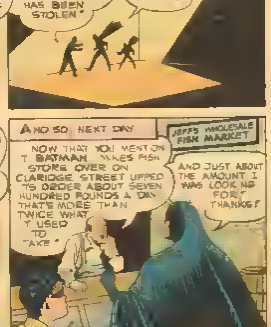




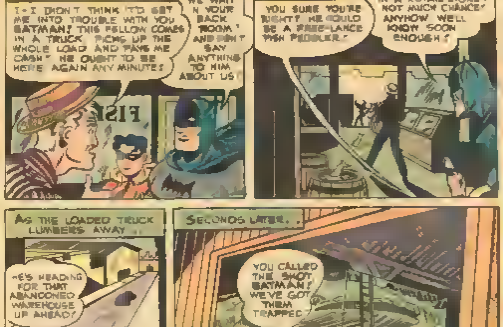
—ALL RIGHT" LET ME GO"
THAT'LL HOLD THEM WHILE WE GO AFTER THE OTHERS

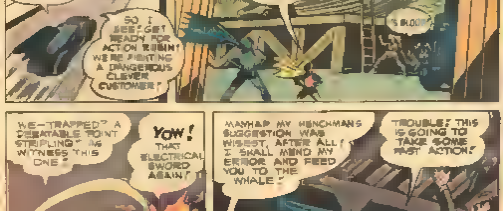
YOU THINK OF A BETTER PLACE?
ANY PLACE IS BETTER WHERE WE ARE NOW..
WHY DO I HERE?

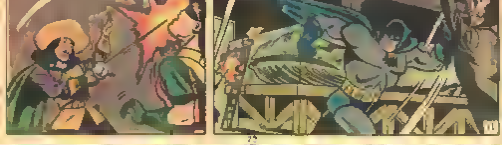

I'LL STAY HERE AND KEEP THEM INSIDE, "ROBIN" YOU GET THE POLICE
ONE ME WAGON COMING UP
I DON'T GET IT" WHY WOULD ANY BODY WANT TO STEAL A WHALE? AND HOW DO WE GO ABOUT FINDING IT?"
I DON'T KNOW YET, BUT WHALES HAVE TO EAT AND WHEN THEY EAT IT MAKES A NOTICEABLE DENT IN THE FISH CONSUMPTION."

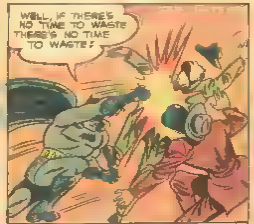

LATER
A CURATOR OF THE MUSEUM "BATMAN I'M THANKFUL YOU STOPPED THE ROBBERY" BUT THE WHALE HAS BEEN STOLEN"
STOLEN? WHALE, TANK AND ALL?"
AND SO, NEXT DAY
JOE'S WHOLESALE FISH MARKET
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT BATMAN MAKES FISH STORE OVER ON CLARIDGE STREET UPPED ITS ORDER ABOUT SEVEN HUNDRED POUNDS A DAY THAT'S MORE THAN TWICE WHAT IT USED TO TAKE"
AND JUST ABOUT THE AMOUNT I WAS LOOKING FOR, THANKS F

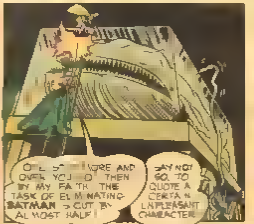
TWENTY-TON ROBBERY

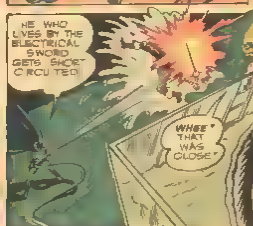


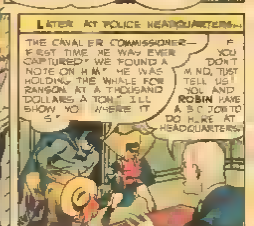


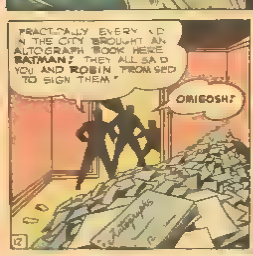



WELL, IF THERE'S NO TIME TO WASTE THERE'S NO TIME TO WASTE!


OFFICIALLY, I WORE AND OWEN YOU ONE THEN BY MY FAITH THE TASK OF ELIMINATING BATMAN SEEMS ALMOST HALF!
SAY NOT SO! TO QUOTE A CERTAIN UNPLEASANT CHARACTER!


HE WHO LIVES BY THE ELECTRICAL SWORD GETS SHORT CIRCUITED!
WHEE! THAT WAS CLOSE!


LATER AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...
THE CAVALIER COMMISSIONER—FIRST TIME HE WAS EVER CAPTURED! WE FOUND A NOTE ON HIM! HE WAS HOLDING THE WHOLE FOR RANSOM AT A THOUSAND DOLLARS A TON! I'LL SHOW YOU WHERE IT IS!
IF YOU DON'T MIND, JUST TELL US! YOU AND ROBIN HAVE A SECRETO DO MORE AT HEADQUARTERS!


PRACTICALLY EVERYONE IN THE CITY BROUGHT AN AUTOGRAPH BOOK HERE BATMAN! THEY ALL SAID YOU AND ROBIN PROMISED TO SIGN THEM!
OMIGOSH!
12

FOR ONE THING, IT'S ANOTHER
WELL, HOW WAS I TO KNOW THEY'D TELL ALL THEIR FRIENDS!

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"APACHE"

INSTANT REPLAY

WHAT A CASE THIS WAS! BATTLING IN THE TAJ MAHAL AND ON A BUTCH WHIRLWIND! ROBIN CLIMBED THE EIFFEL TOWER... WE WERE MENACED BY A MEXICAN IDOL...

100

BUT THAT HAPPENED ON ONE DAY! "SAME CITY" IN THE SKY LEAVING TOWN. WE BATTLED CRIME IN A HUNDRED CITIES... ALL AT ONCE!

BATMAN with ROBIN

CAN YOU IMAGINE A WORLD WHERE BATMAN AND ROBIN NEED TAKE BUT ONE STEP TO GET FROM CAIRO TO CALCUTTA... WHERE ANOTHER STEP CAN TAKE THEM TO A MAYAN TEMPLE, AND ANOTHER STEP TO THE EIFFEL TOWER? YOU DON'T BELIEVE IT'S POSSIBLE? THEN SEE FOR YOURSELF AS THEY SEEMINGLY SPAN WHOLE CITIES WITH SUPER-LEAGUE STRIDES WHEN THEY MEET...

THE GUARDIAN OF 100 CITIES!

IT IS NOT UNCOMMON FOR A MAN TO GAZE WITH AWE AT THE SPHINX.

BUT IT IS UNCOMMON WHEN THIS SAME MAN NEED ONLY TURN HIS HEAD TO LOOK AT THE FAMILIAR LANDMARK OF PARAMU PARIS!

THE EIFFEL TOWER SEEMS TO REACH UP AND TOUCH THE SKY!

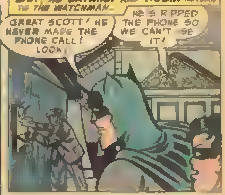
HOW IS IT POSSIBLE FOR THIS MAN TO TAKE ONLY ONE STEP AND SUDDENLY BE TRANSPORTED TO ANOTHER COUNTRY?

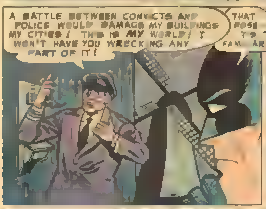
THE "EIFFEL TOWER" AND THE "SPHINX" ARE ONLY REPLICAS LIKE OTHER MOVIE SETS STORED IN A SPRAWLING FIELD NOT FAR FROM THIS HOLLYWOOD STUDIO.
THE WORLD OUTSIDE IS HARD-BUT HERE IN MY WORLD IT IS PEACEFUL QUIET. NO ONE COMES HERE TO BOTHER ME.
SUDDENLY TWO DISTINCT FIGURES ENTER.
BATMAN AND ROBIN! WHAT DO YOU WANT HERE IN MY ROOM?
HUH? WHY WE GOT A TIP THAT SOME ESCAPED CONVICTS MIGHT BE HIDING HERE!
HA HA! THE GANGSTER AND THREE OTHER CONVICTS BROKE JAIL THIS MORNING! IT WAS IN THE NEWSPAPERS.
I WON'T READ THE NEWSPAPERS! I DON'T CARE ABOUT THE OUTSIDE WORLD! THAT'S WHY I LIVE HERE!
GET OFF THE EIFFEL TOWER! YOU'RE NO RIGHT THERE!
IF THOSE CONVICTS ARE HIDING AROUND HERE ROBIN MAY BE ABLE TO SPOT THEM FROM THE TOP OF THE TOWER!
WHISPER: BATMAN! I SAW SOMETHING MOVING NEAR THE TA... HAHA
HA HA! I HAVE YOU! I'LL PHONE THE POLICE TO COME THEM TO LIVE HERE QUICKLY AND TO SURROUND THE ENTIRE AREA!

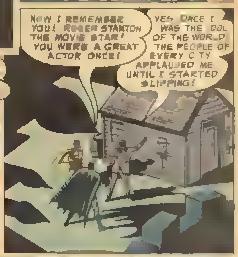
SOON AFTER...
GOSH, BATMAN THIS IS A LOT DIFFERENT THAN GOING OVER THE ROOFTOPS OF GOTHAM CITY!
MEANWHILE UNDER THE DOME OF THE MONITOR TRI MAYAL
YOU SURE KNOW YOUR STUFF BRAG! NO COP WOULD LOOK FOR US IN A MOVIE STORAGE LOT!
EVERYTHING'S GOING ACCORDING TO PLAN! ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS STAY HIDDEN TILL NIGHTFALL
THEN ONE OF MY GANG WILL LAND A PLANE AT THE EDGE OF THE FIELD— AND THAT PLANE WILL FLY US RIGHT OVER THE BORDER WHERE NO ONE WILL EVER FIND US! REAL NEAT, OK?
AT THAT MOMENT THE TWO CAPED CRIMEFIGHTERS PREPARE A SURPRISE.
THEY HAVEN'T SEEN US YET, ROBIN! WE'LL CATCH THEM OFF GUARD!
BUT, ABRUPTLY, AS THEIR PLANE CRUISES A LARGE MAIL TO FALL FROM A PLANE
PINK
THAT SOUND ATTRACTED THE R ATTENTION!
BATMAN AND ROBIN! —GET UP AND ATTACK! WE CAN'T TACKLE THEM WITHOUT GUNS.

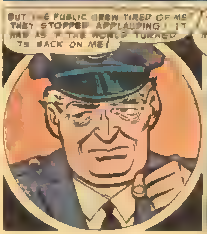
AND, THE CONVICTS SCATTER AMONG THE PROPS

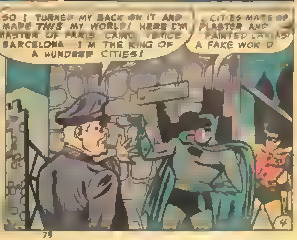
BUT AS BATMAN AND ROBIN RETURN TO THE WATCHMAN...











AND YOU'RE A FAKE, A COWARD! OTHER PEOPLE HAVE HAD BAD TIMES BUT THEY DIDN'T GIVE UP! BUT YOU CAME HERE TO HIDE IN THIS DREAM WORLD BECAUSE YOU'RE AFRAID OF REALITY!

I—I

MAYBE THAT WILL BRING HIM TO HIS SENSES

I HOPE SO! MEANWHILE WE'VE GOT TO PLAN SOME WAY WE CAN FIND UP SHAG DAINELL'S MOB!

SOON AFTER

"HERE'S BATMAN-ALONE-ROBIN MUST BE LOOKING AROUND SOMEWHERE ELSE! NOW'S OUR CHANCE!"

LOOK AT HIM! THE MIGHTY BATMAN BACKING AWAY FROM US!

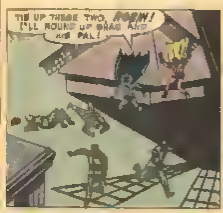
WE'LL HAVE UP AGAINST THE WALL

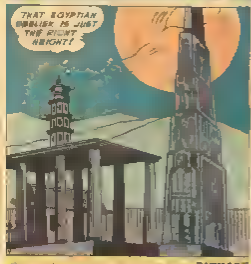
AND AS FOLLOWING FIGURES ARTS HE WINDMILL BLADES CRUSHING

BATMAN'S PLAN WORKED! HE USED HIMSELF AS BAIT TO DRAW OUT THE CONVICTS

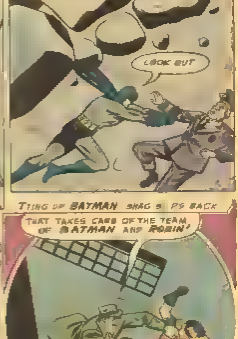
AT A [illegible] ROBIN [illegible] LEAPS PLUS A WINDOW [illegible]

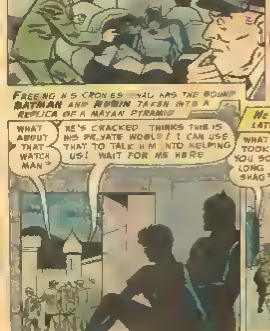
GUARDIAN OF 100 CITIES



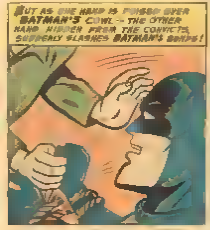


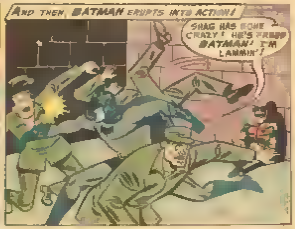
IT'S EASIER TO MOVE THAN I EXPECTED! HERE GOES!
STANTON! LOOK OUT! THAT AZTEC IDOL IS FALLING!

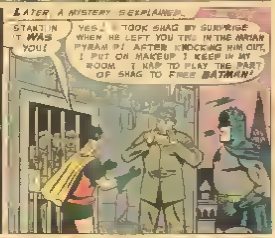

LOOK OUT!

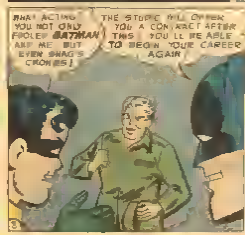

THING OF BATMAN SHAG'S PS BACK
NO! IT ONLY LOOKED LIKE HIM! IT WAS MADE OF PAINTED CARDBOARD!
BUT BATMAN DIDN'T KNOW IT WAS PAPIER MACHE. HE PROBABLY THOUGHT IT WAS PLASTER! YET HE RISKED HIS LIFE TO SAVE HIS
THAT TAKES CARE OF THE TEAM OF BATMAN AND ROBIN!
FREEING HIS CRONIES, YAU HAS THE BOUND BATMAN AND ROBIN TAKEN INTO A REPLICA OF A MAYAN PYRAMID.
WHAT ABOUT THAT WATCH MAN?
HE'S CRACKED! THINKS THIS IS HIS PRIVATE WORLD! I CAN USE THAT TO TALK HIM INTO HELPING US! WAIT FOR ME HERE
WE LEAVE AFTER MINUTES LATER.
WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG, SHAG?
I HAD TO CONVINCE HIM, I TOLD HIM WE'D LEAVE HIS WORLD TONIGHT. HE'S PO CLAP TO GET RID OF US. HE'S GONNA PE OUR PLANE SPOTTER SO WE CAN STAY UNDER COVER UNTIL IT COMES.
AND NOW I'M GONNA DO SOMETHING I'VE WANTED TO DO FOR A LONG TIME. UNMASK BATMAN!

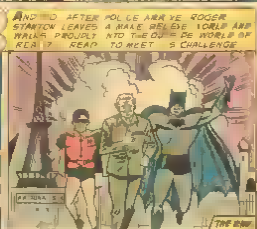
GUARDIAN OF 100 CITIES











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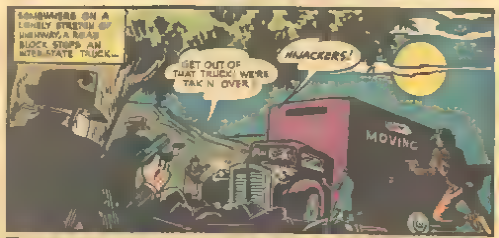
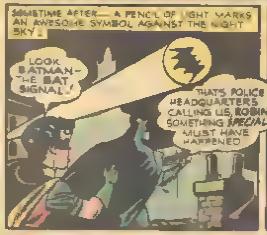
IMPORTANT

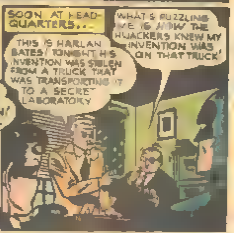
AMERICANIZED MAGIC SHOP Dept. B3

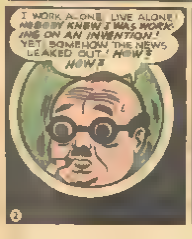
IT'S NEW! A MONITOR!

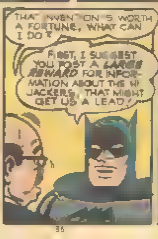
TO WIND UP THIS ISSUE, HERE'S A STORY THAT BEGAN WITH A MAN WHO HAD — THREE EYES
1,000
AND LED US TO A MASTER CRIMINAL WHO HAS SAID TO HAVE "THOUSAND EYES"! HE PUT ME IN ONE OF THE TRIGHTEST SPOTS OF MY CAREER
BATMAN
with
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER
SOMEWHERE IN GOTHAM CITY, U.S.A. A SCHOOL FOR SPIES BUT ITS PUPILS ARE SMARTER ABENTS TAUGHT TO STEAL SECRET DOCUMENTS BUT CRIMINAL GANGS BOUGHT THE STOLEN SECRET LOOT CODES SABOTAGE MOTIVES OF ESPIONAGE IS OVERLOOKED BY THESE CRIMINAL SPIES UNTIL BATMAN AND ROBIN TURN COUNTERSPIES AND CRACK
"The MAN with a THOUSAND EYES!"
KANE
STORY BY BILL FINGER
ART BY DICK SPRANG

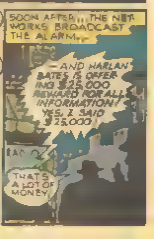

SOMEWHERE ON A LONELY STRETCH OF HIGHWAY, A ROAD BLOCK STOPS AN INTERSTATE TRUCK...
GET OUT OF THAT TRUCK! WE'RE TAKIN OVER!
HIJACKERS!
MOVING


SOMETIME AFTER— A PENCIL OF LIGHT MARKS AN AWESOME SYMBOL AGAINST THE NIGHT SKY.
LOOK BATMAN—THE BAT-SIGNAL!
THAT'S POLICE HEADQUARTERS CALLING US, ROBIN! SOMETHING SPECIAL MUST HAVE HAPPENED


SOON, AT HEAD-QUARTERS...
THIS IS HARLAN BATES! TONIGHT HIS INVENTION WAS STOLEN FROM A TRUCK THAT WAS TRANSPORTING IT TO A SECRET LABORATORY
WHAT'S PUZZLING ME IS HOW THE HIJACKERS KNEW MY INVENTION WAS ON THAT TRUCK!


I WORK ALONE! LIVE ALONE! NOBODY KNEW I WAS WORKING ON AN INVENTION! YET SOMEHOW THE NEWS LEAKED OUT! HOW? HOW?


THAT INVENTION IS WORTH A FORTUNE, WHAT CAN I DO?
FIRST, I SUGGEST YOU OFFER A LARGE REWARD FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE HIJACKERS THAT MIGHT GET US A LEAD!


SOON AFTER... THE NEWS WORKS BROADCAST THE ALARM...
—AND HARLAN BATES IS OFFERING $25,000 REWARD FOR ALL INFORMATION! YES, I SAID $25,000!
THAT'S A LOT OF MONEY!

MAN WITH 1,000 EYES

LATER...THE TEMPTING OFFER BRINGS RESULTS

'TS SOMEBODY WITH INFORMATION FOR SALE.

BRING THE $25,000 WITH YOU TO BAKER AND MALL STREETS LL BE WEARIN A CHECKED SUIT.

STILL LATER...AT THE MEETING PLACE

HERE'S YOUR REWARD DOUBLE-CROSSER!

RESTAURANT

RAT TAT TAT TAT TAT

THE MURDER CAR TURNS THE CORNER, JUST AS THE MAN HUNTERS ARRIVE TO KEEP THEIR APPOINTMENT

I HEARD MACHINE GUN FIRE!

I HAVE A HUNCH OUR IN FORMER MONT EVER TALK AGAIN! *LOOK!*

EVEN AS THE GUN SHOUT SWIVELS BATMAN SWEEPS HIS COMPANIONS TO THE GROUND!

DOWN!

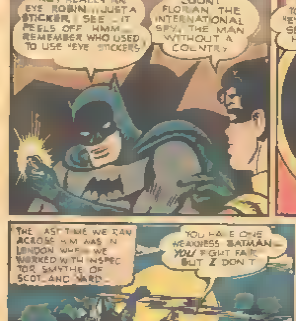
AS BATMAN ROLLS THE TIPSTER OVER, HE GETS THE SHOCK OF HIS LIFE!

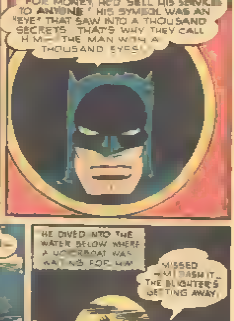
BATMAN... LOOK! HE WAS *THREE EYES!*

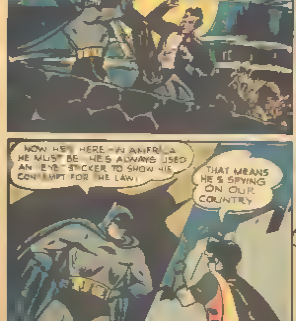
I'M... HIT... BAD.

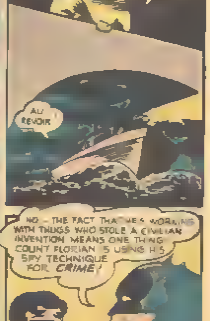
BATES, CALL POLICE HEADQUARTERS —FAST! ROBIN AND I WILL TAKE A LOOK AT THE MAN THEY SHOT.

OH MY!


NOT REALLY AN EYE ROBINS! JUST A STICKER! SEE—IT PEELS OFF. HMM... REMEMBER WHO USED TO USE 'EYE' STICKERS?
COUNT FLORIAN, THE INTERNATIONAL SPY! THE MAN WITHOUT A COUNTRY.


FOR MONEY HE'D SELL HIS SERVICES TO ANYONE! HIS SYMBOL WAS AN 'EYE' THAT SAW INTO A THOUSAND SECRETS. THAT'S WHY THEY CALL HIM—THE MAN WITH A THOUSAND EYES!


THE LAST TIME WE RAN ACROSS HIM WAS IN LONDON WHERE WE WORKED WITH INSPECTOR SMYTHE OF SCOTLAND YARD...
YOU HAVE ONE WEAKNESS, BATMAN—YOU FIGHT FAIR BUT I DON'T.


HE DIVED INTO THE WATER BELOW WHERE A HOVERCRAFT WAS WAITING FOR HIM.
MISSED—I'LL TRACK IT. THE BLIGHTER'S GETTING AWAY!
AU REVOIR

NOW HE'S HERE—IN AMERICA. HE MUST BE. HE'S ALWAYS USED AN 'EYE' STICKER TO SHOW HIS CONTEMPT FOR THE LAW!
THAT MEANS HE'S SPYING ON OUR COUNTRY.

NO—THE FACT THAT HE'S WORKING WITH THUGS WHO STOLE A CIVILIAN INVENTION MEANS ONE THING: COUNT FLORIAN IS USING HIS SPY TECHNIQUE FOR CRIME!

MAN WITH 1,000 EYES

FROM ANOTHER ROOFTOP, THE MUNCH-AND-MASHER GOBS IS PICKED UP

LANEY LEAVING... NOW MESSAGE RECEIVED ... ALL PHONE THE COUN

SOON AFTER, FROM COUNT FLORIAN'S HEADQUARTERS, THE MESSAGE IS RELAYED BY AUTO TELEPHONE TO A WAITING CAR

RIGHT COUNT WE'LL USE PLAN NUMBER 14 AS WE REHEARSED IT

AND AT THE COUNT'S HEAD-QUARTERS...

"THAT'S TAKEN CARE OF WELL... TIME FOR GLASS! THE PURPLE GANG WANTS INFORMATION ABOUT THE CASE BANK GOLD SHIPMENT AND TRIGGER BROWN WANTS CERTAIN BLACKMAIL INFORMATION.

"GLASS? YES FOR HERE IN THE VERY HEART OF GOTHAM CITY COUNT FLORIAN IS TRAINING HIRELINGS FOR CRIMINAL ESPIONAGE."

NOTICE THIS ORDINARY CORD WITH STRING WOUND AROUND IT. ACTUALLY IT HAS A COPIED MESSAGE AS YOU UNWIND THE THREAD FOR EACH SPACE REPRESENTS A LETTER IN THE ALPHABET

EVERY UNFAIR TRICK IS TAUGHT THE PUPILS OF THIS SCHOOL FOR SPIES!

IF ARRESTED YOU PRETEND TO SURRENDER... BUT UPON RAISING YOUR ARMS, A GUN HIDDEN BY YOUR COAT, FIRES BY MEANS OF A WIRE RUNNING UP YOUR SLEEVE TO YOUR UPRAISED HAND! DON'T WORRY BOYS—THESE ARE BLANK BULLETS

NO DETAIL IS OVERLOOKED BY THIS MASTER SPY!

QUICK! YOU MUST SEND MORSE CODE FASTER THAN THAT! AND YOU SLUG, HOLD YOUR BREATH AS YOU CLICK A CAMERA SHUTTER... ELSE YOU BLUR THE PICTURE!

CLICK

TAP TAP

MAN WITH 1,000 EYES

ELSEWHERE—ON THE TRAIN CARRYING LANEY AND HIS PRISONER...

WHISPER THE TRAIN STOPPER TO TAKE ON WATER JUST AS IT ALWAYS DOES. NOW'S THE TIME.

ABRUPTLY—

HOLD IT AND DON'T TRY TO BE A HERO! OKAY JOE... CUT THE HANDCUFFS

HELLO BOYS!

THEN, CHARGING FROM A DRAWING ROOM COMPARTMENT...

BATMAN AND ROBIN!

SURPRISED COMMISSIONER GORDON HAD US GO ALONG TO BACK UP LANEY JUST IN CASE

IN THE ROUGH AND TUMBLE SCRAMBLE, THE GOODLINS MANAGE TO REACH THE TRAIN DOOR WAY...

GO GET EM BATMAN BIG AL'S QUIET NOW!

JUST IN TIME BATMAN SPOTS THE THUGS HURLING TWO SLIM OBJECTS AT HIM...

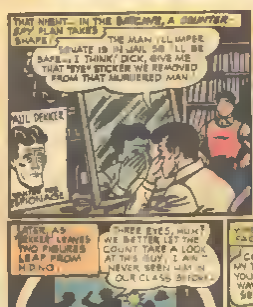
PENCIL BOMBS! THE KIND USED BY SABOTEURS IN THE LAST WAR!

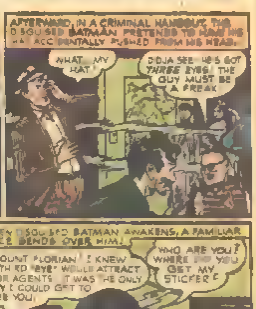
A WANTED CAR SPEEDS UP AND THE GANG NAILS ESCAPE, BUT WITHOUT BIG AL

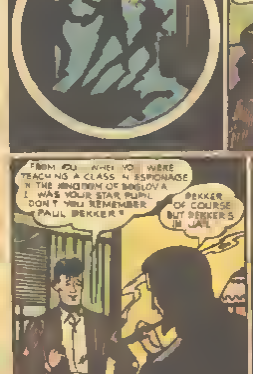
COUNT? COUNT FLORIAN? HE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS TOO!

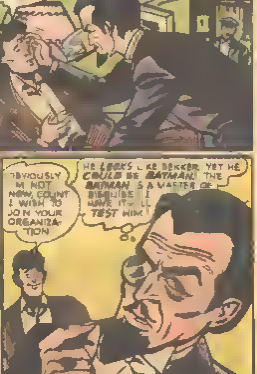
HURRY YOU SUNGLED THE ASSIGNMENT! THE COUNT WILL BE ANGRY

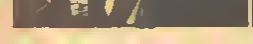
BUT IT WASN'T OUR FAULT


THAT NIGHT— IN THE BATCAVE, A SHORTER-BUT PLAIN TAKES SHAPE!
THE MAN I'LL IMPERSONATE IS IN JAIL, SO I'LL BE SAFE... I THINK! GIVE ME THAT "EYE" STICKER WE REMOVED FROM THAT MURDERED MAN
PAUL DEKKER
IMPERSONATE


AFTERWARD, IN A CRIMINAL HAUNT, THE DISGUISED BATMAN PRETENDS TO HAVE HIS HAT ACCIDENTALLY PUSHED FROM HIS HEAD.
WHAT... MY HAT!
DOJA SEE—HE'S GOT THREE EYES! THE GUY MUST BE A FREAK

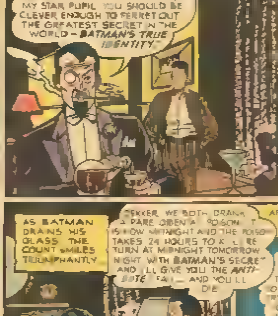

LATER, AS DEKKER LEAVES TWO FIGURES LEAP FROM HIDING!
THREE EYES, MUM? WE BETTER LET THE COUNT TAKE A LOOK AT THIS GUY. I AIN'—NEVER SEEN HIM IN OUR CLASS BEFORE!

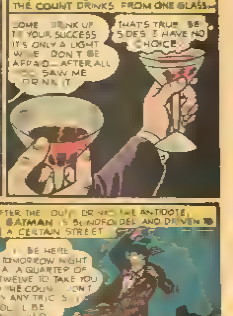

WHEN DISGUISED BATMAN AWAKENS, A FAMILIAR FACE BENDS OVER HIM.
COUNT FLORIAN! I KNEW AN THIRD "EYE" WOULD ATTRACT YOUR AGENTS... IT WAS THE ONLY WAY I COULD GET TO SEE YOU!
WHO ARE YOU? WHERE DID YOU GET MY STICKER?

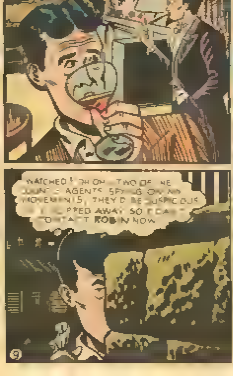

"FROM YOU, WHEN YOU WERE TEACHING A CLASS IN ESPIONAGE IN THE KINGDOM OF BOSLOVIA. I WAS YOUR STAR PUPIL. DON'T YOU REMEMBER, PAUL DEKKER?"
DEKKER? OF COURSE BUT DEKKER'S IN JAIL

OBVIOUSLY I'M NOT WHOM COUNT I WISH TO JOIN YOUR ORGANIZATION
HE LOOKS LIKE DEKKER, YET HE COULD BE BATMAN! THE BATMAN IS A MASTER OF DISGUISE! I MUST TEST HIM!

MAN WITH 1,000 EYES







BATMAN SUPER-SPECTACULAR

PLAYING HIS ROLE OF A SPY TRYING TO LEARN BATMAN'S IDENTITY "BREKKER" VISITS A WAX MUSEUM...

LIFE-SIZE FIGURES OF BATMAN AND ROBIN WITH THE JOKER

HE'S USING A TAPE MEASURE. HE FIGURES BATMAN'S MEASUREMENTS WILL GIVE HIM A LEAD.

LATER... AT A THEATRE SHOWING A BATMAN DOCUMENTARY FILM...

...AND ALWAYS REMEMBER YOUR POLICE DEPARTMENT IS YOUR PROTECTION

BREKKER GOT HIS EYES CLOSED! HE'S TRYING TO PLACE BATMAN'S VOICE. SMART.

SEE... HE WAS MAKING SKETCHES OF DIFFERENT FACES UNDER BATMAN'S MASK... TRYING TO FILL IN THE FEATURES. THAT BREKKER GUY IS CLEVER. I GUESS HE IS THE REAL McCOY.

STILL LATER, WHEN BREKKER LEAVES A PARK BENCH WHERE HE HAS BEEN WORKING FOR A LONG TIME...

LATER... FINALLY IT IS 3 O'CLOCK... WHEN DICK GRAYSON'S SCHOOL LETS OUT IS AGAIN.

BATMAN... BUT HE'S WALKING RIGHT PAST ME. THAT MEANS HE DOESN'T WANT HE'S SEEN ME TO APPROACH HIM.

LATER... THE DISGUISED BATMAN SPENDS SOME TIME IN A PENNY ARCADE

PUNCH THE BAG

PUT ... 1¢

SHOOTING GALLERY

BUT BY REDU... BATMAN IS SENDING OUT A MORSE CODE MESSAGE TO DICK!

MAN WITH 1,000 EYES

LATER... AT EXACTLY A QUARTER OF TWELVE—

OKAY DEKKER... THE COUNTDOWN WAITING

MOMENTS LATER... WHEN THE SUNDIAL IS REMOVED...

COUNT... IF YOU PROMISE TO GIVE ME THE ANTIDOTE... TELL YOU WHO BATMAN IS AT THIS VERY MOMENT!

VERY WELL... YOU HAVE MY WORD... WHO IS BATMAN?

AT THIS MOMENT... I AM BATMAN!

YOU... YOU TRICKED ME! YOU REVEALED YOUR SELF WITHOUT REVEALING YOUR SECRET IDENTITY!

HERE'S THE ANTIDOTE... BUT THE INSTANT YOU DRINK THE BEAKER... MY MEN WILL SHOOT YOU DOWN! YOU SEE... I AM KEEPING MY PROMISE... THAT YOU... DIE!

SHRUGGING... DEKKER SHEDS HIS OUTER GARMENTS... RISING AT HIS MAKER!—AND THEN STANDS DRAMATICALLY REVEALED!

AS BATMAN RAISES THE BEAKER TO HIS LIPS... IT BECOMES A SIGNAL FOR THE ENTRANCE OF THE BOY WONDER!

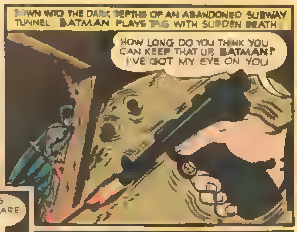
ROBIN!

AND THAT GIVES ME TIME TO DRINK THE ANTIDOTE!

BEFORE THE SPIES CAN RECOVER... ROBIN'S SILKEN ROPE LOOPS ABOUT THEM AND SNARES THEIR ANKLES!

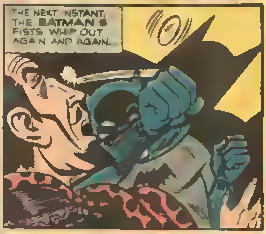
OKAY BATMAN... THEY'LL TAKE THE COUNT OF TEN WHILE YOU GO AFTER THE COUNT!

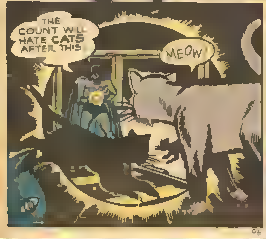
NOW COUNT, I'LL SETTLE WITH YOU!

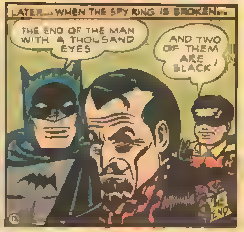

DOWN INTO THE DARK DEPTHS OF AN ABANDONED SUBWAY TUNNEL BATMAN PLAYS TAG WITH SUDDEN DEATH.
HOW LONG DO YOU THINK YOU CAN KEEP THAT UP, BATMAN? I'VE GOT MY EYE ON YOU!

YOU'RE WRONG COUNT... THERE ARE EYES ON YOU. TAKE A LOOK BEHIND YOU!

WHAT! EYES! EYES ALL AROUND ME!


THE NEXT INSTANT, THE BATMAN'S FISTS WHIP OUT AGAIN AND AGAIN.


THE COUNT WILL HATE CATS AFTER THIS.
MEOW!


LATER... WHEN THE SPY RING IS BROKEN...
THE END OF THE MAN WITH A THOUSAND EYES.
AND TWO OF THEM ARE BLACK!
THE END

RALLY 'ROUND ROBIN

Dear Sirs

After buying the latest **BATMAN** and sitting down to peruse its contents a single fact struck me. There was no new Robin story. I wondered why that then I remembered letters I had seen in favor of your dropping the Boy Wonder. I was opposed by this. I have never been a great Batman fan. I have however been a long time fan of Robin. This and this alone is the reason I buy **BATMAN**. I have often thought that starting him in his late teens was a noble undertaking on your part, especially when so many young heroes like **Speedy** and **Aquaboy** are just as much extra baggage to their grown up counterparts. But I am horrified at the idea of your dropping Robin altogether. He is no comply terrible of Batman's earlier days, but a fine way of showing the young men a approach to crime and punishment.

would never suggest that Robin take Batman's place. Nor do I think that Robin could ever measure up to the Caped Crusader's stature or popularity. All I m saying is that Robin is a part of the Batman legend and as part of a great team he should not be done away with.

— **MARLA CUMMING** Troy OH

(Being traditionalists — as opposed to shaving virgins — we've decided that it's Ladies first in this discussion of what to do with ROBIN.

Sean, holding a campaign for an independent TEEN WONDER is not near as responsible!)

BRI

* * *

Sir

No No! NO! Keep Batman and Robin separate! Every time the two get together the writers mess up with some scheme to get rid of the Wear Pant Masking halfway through so Batman can stay the single girl. Besides the same writers are want to make the Teen Wonder look like a pain accused for a foil just to make the Masked Manhunter look better. (Yes I see no Robin make dumb mistakes. Sure Batman makes mistakes too but they're intelligent mistakes! In short QUIT MIXING ON MY MAN. Separate yes learned no!

MADDIE SPEARS Offutt AFB NE

Dear Editor

Concerning the question you asked in **BATMAN #298** say keep the Batman and Robin team together. The Dynamic duo Batman tale with Robin (and cave) must have ringing, mental because of the lightly and teamwork.

It appears that the Teen Wonder is slipping — in the least every he is nearly impaled knocked unconscious, almost eaten by tigers and his beguiling wife was holding a spotlight. On the other hand, Batman a nighttime crime fighting hour man rescues Robin and walks a tightrope to catch the crooks.

But the regent stance showed Robin able to stand on his own use his brains and be successful. I'm not dwelling on the past but please give Robin back the stuff that made him. Batman a valuable partner step not just a tap along.

Ms P F Plattsburgh AFB NY

(And now that we've sampled the feminine point of view let's see what the guys have to say) BRI

* * * *

Dear Editor

I'd like to see Robin with Batman in 20-page stories. And longest about changing the Teen Wonder! A mustache is upward off I (like him secure)

— STEPHEN BACHINSKY Middletown, CT

* *

Dear Editor

I vote NO to more Batman stories with Robin I prefer to see the Caped Crusader portrayed as a lone descending hero behind. An occasional Robin appearance (say once every three or four years) is okay but I'm against anything on a regular basis

— RANDY CRAWFORD Minden WV

Dear Editor

Batman AND Robin are the legend not Batman by himself. Team them up again for good!

— BOB LEZON East Hartford CT

* *

Dear Editor

It's great to have Batman and Robin together here charge but I'd like to see the Gotham Guard (as by himself too (By the way I think the Robin suits sure as smart)

— GLENN KOWALSKI Washington D.C

* *

(So there you have it — ROBIN pro and con — with no clear cut decision. Can we resolve this as everyone's satisfaction? Well just keep reading BATMAN as well as (that hard) DETECTIVE COMICS and see for yourselves!

BOB ROZAKIS)

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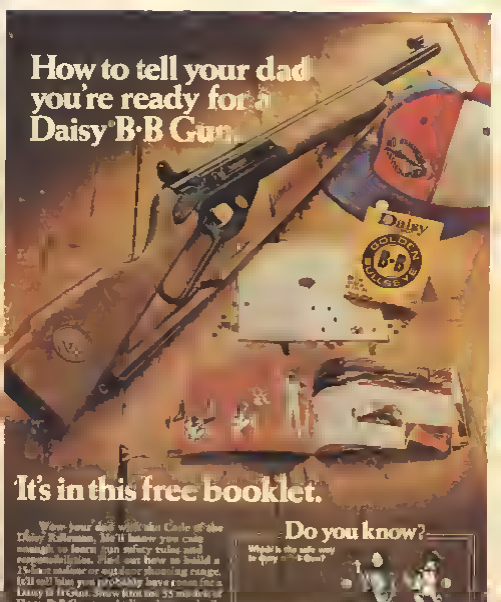

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